SAINT☆YOUNG MEN

HIKARU
NAKAMURA

ASCETICS USE EVERY TECHNIQUE IN THEIR ARSENAL TO FIGHT THEIR PASSIONS.

WHEN THE MIND IS CLEAR OF ALL WORLDLY THOUGHTS, EVEN FIRE CAN SEEM COOL.

BUT THAT PATH...

ALL TO GET EVEN A SINGLE STEP CLOSER TO THE REALMS OF ENLIGHT-ENMENT...

IT'S SO HOT... BUT THE TATAMI MATS ARE NICE AND COOL.

BUZZZ

BUZZZ

UUGH.

HUMMM

HUM

HUM

...IS A LONG AND ARDU-OUS ONE.

WHAT?! DON'T TELL ME YOU'VE ALREADY ATTAINED ENLIGHTEN...

HM ...?

OF COURSE!!

JOLT

ガバッ

THIS MAY BE WHY...

YOU SEE THAT CALM, COOL EXPRESSION? DON'T YOU THINK IT MAY HOLD SOME HINT TO ACHIEVING THE NON-SELF?

UH, MAYBE, BUT JR. IS JUST...

I'M COOLING THEM IN THE FRIDGE.

UGH, WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR PANTS?!

ROLL

ゴロ

YOU'RE GOING ABOUT THIS ALL WRONG. LOOK AT JR.

SAINT YOUNG MEN
Chapter 16
Cool Air Hunters

CLING
AAAHHH, I KNEW IT! NICE AND COLD!
...PEOPLE CARVE IMAGES OF THE BUDDHA THAT THEY MAY LEAN ON FOR SUPPORT.
Now I'm getting uncomfortably hot.
WELL, WHATEVER HELPS YOU FIND YOUR SALVATION, I GUESS.

YEAH, I'D APPRECIATE IT IF YOU DIDN'T RELY ON MY BIG EARS SO MUCH...

BUT I DON'T KNOW IF EVEN YOUR EARLOBES WILL BE ENOUGH TO GET ME THROUGH THIS SUMMER...

SIGH...

FAN

FAN

SO PLEASE STOP TREATING THEM LIKE YOUR OWN PERSONAL PROPERTY.

BUZZZ

BUZZZ

TODAY IS JUST ABNORMALLY HOT...

I'M SURE PART OF IT IS THAT THERE'S NO BREEZE...

APPARENTLY OUR NEXTDOOR NEIGHBOR BOUGHT AN AIR CONDITIONER.

OH YEAH, IT WOULD BE.

PLUS, THE BREEZE COMING IN THE RIGHT-SIDE WINDOW IS UNUSUALLY WARM.

I THINK IT REALLY GOT BAD LAST NIGHT.

NNGH...

BUT YOU'RE STILL IN YOUR UNDER-PANTS!!

WHAT?! NOW?!

DASH

I'M GONNA GO GIVE THEM A PIECE OF MY MIND!!

DO YOU HEAR MY VOICE?!

O NEIGH-BOR...

DON'T DO IT! WE DON'T WANT TO PICK A FIGHT...

WHOOSH

MWOOMM

WHAT?! A SNEAK-ATTACK FROM OUR NEXTDOOR NEIGHBOR?!

AND ALL THE DISPLACED HEAT GETS BLOWN TOWARDS US.

DON'T MAKE UNREA-SONABLE DEMANDS LIKE THAT!

WHOSOEVER SHALL SEND WARM AIR THROUGH THE RIGHT WINDOW...

LET HIM SEND IT THROUGH THE LEFT ALSO!

BUDDHA: ALWAYS TAKES THE AISLE SEAT ON A PLANE SO AS NOT BOTHER PEOPLE WHEN GOING TO THE RESTROOM.

OH! DOES THIS MEAN YOU MANAGED TO COOL DOWN SOME?

LUCKY. I TRIED SOMETHING LIKE THAT LAST NIGHT.

Sigh

BUT, MAN! I DIDN'T EXPECT YOU TO CHARGE OVER THERE LIKE THAT! IT WAS DOWNRIGHT CHILLING!

LUCKY FOR US, OUR NEIGHBOR SEEMS TO HAVE STEPPED OUT...

BUT I WOULDN'T CALL IT *SCARY*...

Hmmm...

I DO GET A LITTLE STARTLED WHEN I HAPPEN TO RUN INTO SOMEONE LIKE THAT ON EARTH.

OH, YEAH. PRETTY MUCH EVERYONE IN THE HEAVENS IS ALREADY DEAD.

BUT IT DIDN'T GIVE ME ANY CHILLS AT ALL.

I WAS ALL, "MAYBE A GHOST STORY WILL MAKE MY BLOOD RUN COLD," SO I WATCHED THIS SHOW.

TV: BEAT THE HEAT SPECIAL, TRUE GHOST STORIES

YEAH, IT *DOES* FEEL A LOT LIKE THAT!

Oh, no!

Oh, no!

Oh, no! It's Teach!

Ah! Hey, what are you doing here?!

Keep that up, and you'll never escape Samsara!!

I FEEL MORE LIKE THE NIGHT WATCH TEACHER WHEN HE FINDS ONE OF HIS STUDENTS IN THE RED-LIGHT DISTRICT.

HM...?

WELL, COME TO THINK OF IT, PETER WAS SAYING HE HAD A REALLY SCARY STORY.

Sigh

HMMM, I DON'T SUPPOSE ...

THERE'S A GHOST STORY OUT THERE THAT COULD MAKE *OUR* BLOOD RUN COLD.

SHIRT: THE CARPENTER'S SON

WAIT A SEC. I'LL CALL AND ASK HIM TO TELL US!

KA-POP

I THINK HE SAID IT'S A TRUE STORY, AND IT NEVER FAILS TO GET A SCARE...

Yeah! This'll be good!

WELL IT *MUST* BE SCARY IF SOMEONE FROM THE HEAVENS SAYS SO.

AH HA HA. BUDDHA IS BOWING.

And you listed him as Petey...?

HEY! IT'S GOOD TO HEAR FROM YOU, PETER-SAN!

Bow

OH! HELLO, BUDDHA-SAN!

CLUNK

THREE MIN-UTES LATER

Group: Disciples

Petey

080-2324-XXXX

OH! THAT REMINDS ME, THANKS FOR SENDING ME ALL THAT HAIR THE OTHER DAY!

I'll raise the volume...

HA HA HA...

COME ON, YOU CAN CALL ME PETEY!

IT'S JUST FANTASTIC. A CUSTOM-MADE FISHING NET. REALLY, I WAS SO TOUCHED...

IT'S SUCH A DIFFERENT ATTITUDE FROM MY DISCIPLES'...

YUP. IT'S IN HANDS-FREE MODE. HE CAN HEAR US, TOO.

HUH? YOU CAN USE IT LIKE THAT?

This sure is handy.

AAAGHH, I DON'T KNOW HOW TO RESPOND TO THAT GAG!

HA HA HA HA HA...

Ha ha ha! Aw, come on, you're changing religions?

...I'M ALMOST READY TO CONVERT TO BUDDHISM (LOL).

JESUS: ALWAYS TAKES THE WINDOW SEAT ON A PLANE TO LOOK AT THE SCENERY, BUT GETS BORED OF IT MID-FLIGHT. GETS REALLY EXCITED WHEN THE IN-FLIGHT MEAL COMES AROUND.

ALL RIGHT, SO THIS STORY...

Group: Disciples

Petey

...REALLY HAPPENED TO ME, ABOUT 20 CENTURIES AGO.

OKAY, PETER, YOU READY TO TELL YOUR SCARY STORY?

YUP.

トTEP トTEP

FIDGET

... "THEN LET ME KNOW YOUR ROBE SIZE"...?

SHOULD I HAVE A WITTY COME-BACK LIKE...

ドキ B-DMP

ドキ B-DMP

FIDGET

SHIRT: DEMONS QUELLED, ENLIGHTENMENT ACHIEVED

...?! WHAT IS THIS? PETER'S BRAND OF HUMOR?!

BUT SURELY THIS IS RUDE TO HIS MASTER?

...I SAW A LONG-HAIRED MAN IN WHITE, FLOATING ABOVE THE WATER!

W... W...

...? I KNEW IT. THIS IS A STORY OF ONE OF JESUS'S MIRACLES, ISN'T IT?

IT WAS SOMETIME AFTER THREE IN THE MORNING... WE SAW SOMETHING FOLLOWING THE BOAT.

B-DMP

THRILL

I THOUGHT IT WAS A SMALL BOAT OR SOME-THING, BUT ON CLOSER INSPECTION...

...WAIT. WOULDN'T JESUS HAVE BEEN THERE FOR THIS STORY?

IT WAS A DARK AND STORMY NIGHT... WE HAD TAKEN OUR BOAT AND SET OFF ACROSS THE SEA OF GALILEE.

Mm-hm.

KER-WHAP

THAT WAS ME!!!

WINCE "

WAIT A MINUTE!

JOLT

WOW! WHAT *WAS* THAT PERSON? THAT'S SUPER SCARY!

THAT SHOULD BE AGAINST THE RULES!

COME ON, PETEY, STOP IT!

HAH

AT THE GHOST STORY MARATHONS UP IN HEAVEN!

THIS STORY IS ALWAYS A BIG HIT WHEN I TELL IT...

THE NON-STOP, BRAZENLY IRREVERENT BANTER MADE BUDDHA'S BLOOD RUN COLD!

GULP

ゴ?

HE EVEN PLAYED ALONG FOR A SECOND!!

IF *THAT* SURPRISES YOU, WAIT'LL YOU SEE HOW HIGH-ENERGY THE ANGELS CAN BE. YOU'D NEVER BE ABLE TO KEEP UP!

OH, COME ON.

SNAP

HOW DO YOU DO THAT? IS IT BECAUSE YOU'RE SO YOUNG?

I'M SURPRISED YOU TWO CAN BE SO INFORMAL ...

I WANT TO UPDATE MY BLOG, BUT MY COMPUTER'S TOO HOT...

BUT IT DID NOTHING TO HELP ME COOL DOWN.

AWWW, BUT YOU CAN'T *TALK* THERE...

I've been steadily requesting all the Tezuka manga.

BUT THEY'VE REALLY FILLED OUT THEIR MANGA SELECTION LATELY.

NOT ONLY IS IT FREE,

WHAT? YOU JUST WANT TO GO FOR THE AIR CONDITIONING.

OH, I KNOW! HOW ABOUT WE GO TO A FAMILY RESTAURANT ?!

I'D RATHER GO TO THE LIBRARY.

THAT MUST HAVE BEEN HARD...

OH, YEAH... YOU HARDLY TESTIFIED AT ALL, RIGHT?

YEAH...

I WAS ON TRIAL ONCE, AND IT WAS REALLY TOUGH...

I CAN'T HANDLE PLACES WHERE I CAN'T TALK.

Sigh...

THE TRIAL WAS THAT FUNNY ?!

Keeping eyes out of focus to avoid seeing anything

I WAS BITING MY CHEEKS THE WHOLE TIME TO KEEP MYSELF FROM LAUGHING.

HE MUST NOT REALIZE THAT HIS LAUGHTER THRESHOLD IS ALWAYS PRETTY LOW...

Yeah, I guess that would make anyone laugh.

He was just... standing super close...

The prefect of Judea, Pilate-san...

NO, IT'S JUST...WHEN YOU'RE NOT SUPPOSED TO LAUGH,

YOUR LAUGHTER THRESHOLD JUST DROPS, YOU KNOW?

WHOA, WAIT...

RIGHT?

THE STREETS ARE LIKE A FRYING PAN.

IT CAN'T BE... THEY'RE NOT SUPPOSED TO BE OUT AT THIS TIME OF DAY...

WE HAVEN'T DONE THIS IN FOREVER. I WONDER IF THEY'VE CHANGED THE MENU.

WHOA, IT'S EVEN HOTTER OUTSIDE.

OOHH! THIS IS GONNA BE FANCY!

I ACTUALLY HAVE A COUPON FOR SOME FREE FRIES!

OKAY. THEN LET'S GO TO THE FAMILY RESTAU-RANT.

I FINALLY FEEL MOTIVATED TO PUT SOME PANTS ON!

IT'S THE BUTTON ALIEN!

WHAT? WHY WOULD YOU VOLUNTARILY GET CLOSER TO HIM...?

OH!

LET'S TAKE A DETOUR, BUDDHA!

IT'S YOUR ARCH-NEMESIS— A NEIGH-BORHOOD GRADE-SCHOOLER!!

SO, DOES SUMMER BREAK START TOMOR-ROW?

GRIN

TODAY'S THE DAY! I'M GONNA HIT IT 10 TIMES IN A ROW!

URRRGH?!

WOW, BUDDHA, I'M IMPRESSED!

GRIN

THAT'S WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU TRY TO BRING EVERYTHING HOME ALL AT ONCE.

OH NO! I'M CARRYING TOO MUCH STUFF! I HAVE NO FREE HANDS!

...!

Morning Glory

NN... HNNN.

WHY...?

GRIN

I THINK OF YOU...

...AS MY FIRST FRIEND IN TACHIKAWA.

I WOULDN'T DO THAT.

DANGIT, FINE! IF YOU WANT PAYBACK, THEN MAKE IT QUICK...

I MEAN ...

HOW DID THEY BLOOM SO FAST?!

THOSE MORNING GLORIES WERE JUST BUDS A SECOND AGO...

BUDDHA...

Sigh...

HUH...? NO, UM...

WAAAH!

WAAAAH! WHAT DO I DO?!

I WAS SUPPOSED TO WRITE AN OBSERVATION DIARY...

NIRV

NOTHING GROWS FROM REVENGE.

I DIDN'T DO IT ON PURPOSE!

Of such is the kingdom of heaven...

WAAAH

LOVE YOUR ENEMIES... OKAY?

IT'S ALL RIGHT... MAYBE NOW HE'LL EASE UP ON ALL THE ATTACKS.

I MADE THE FLOWERS RETURN TO NORMAL FROM NEW SEEDS, BUT...

WHEW, WHAT A DISAS-TER.

A NON-SMOKING TABLE FOR TWO, RIGHT THIS WAY!

SIGN: PART-TIME HELP WANTED

I'M SO GLAD WE CAME.

AAAH, I'M IN HEAVEN ...!

THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

DO YOU MIND SITTING BY THE WINDOW?

OH! WE HAVE ONE. A SOUND-BASED SYSTEM LIKE THIS ONE.

Coming up!

DING-DONG

Sermon For Four at Table 3!

I WISH WE HAD ONE IN MY RELIGION ...

THINGS LIKE THIS COULD REALLY HELP AN ORGANIZA-TION RUN SMOOTHLY.

JUST LET ME KNOW BY PUSHING THIS BUTTON.

WHEN YOU'RE READY TO ORDER,

Will do!

I STILL HAVEN'T ACTUALLY SEEN IT IN ACTION.

SIGH

WHOA, HOW PROGRES-SIVE. HOW DOES IT WORK?

THESE BUTTONS ARE SO INNOVATIVE.

I THINK THAT'S THE KIND OF THING YOU SHOULD TELL PEOPLE WITH WORDS.

BUT SEVEN TRUMPETS WILL SOUND ...

AND THAT WILL TRIGGER THE END OF THE WORLD...

OH... SO THAT'S WHY YOU WERE SO SCARED WHEN THE FANFARE STARTED AT THE BEGINNING OF *STAR WARS*...

BARRUMP!!

ALING

NEARLY AS WELL AS THE SOUND OF A TRUMPET.

THAT'S WHY WIND CHIMES DON'T COOL ME DOWN...

NO. RIGHT NOW, I WANT TO ENJOY THIS COOLNESS WITH MY ENTIRE BEING.

Oohh...

It's huge...

CHILL

CHILL

WHOA, YOU'RE NOT GONNA GET TOO COLD EATING ALL THAT?

ARE YOU READY TO ORDER?

OH, I WANT A DRINK-BAR ORDER AND FRIES.

OH! COULD YOU GET ME THE "JESUS BLEND"?!

OKAY, OKAY.

I'M GOING TO GO GET A TEA REFILL...

I WANT A DRINK-BAR ORDER AND MANGO FRESH SUNDAE, PLEASE!

WHOOOSH

OH, NO! YOU'VE GONE INTO YOUR ULTIMATE COLD-RESISTANCE MODE!

LOTS OF ICE...

HERE, JESUS. THANKS FOR WAITING.

LET'S SEE, "JESUS BLEND"...

I'M STARTING TO FEEL A LITTLE CHILLY...

I'm glad I brought this.

SIX PARTS CALPIS, THREE PARTS MELON SODA, ONE PART LEMONADE, AND...

NO SEA ANGEL HAS BLUE LIPS!

WOBBA-FLUTTER

WOBBA-FLUTTER

...IMITATING A SEA ANGEL...

OH, NO... I'M JUST, UH...

WELL, YOU KNOW. I GET DIARRHEA REALLY EASILY, ESPECIALLY IN THE COLD, SO...

I WONDERED WHY YOUR BAG WAS SO BIG...

THAT MUST HAVE BEEN HEAVY!

Whoa...

!!

YOU CARRIED MY SWEATSHIRT HERE?!

HERE. I BROUGHT YOUR SWEAT-SHIRT.

WHAT ARE YOU PREPARED FOR, THE ICE AGE?

YOINK ぴよい!

YOU KNOW WHAT THEY SAY. YOU CAN NEVER BE TOO PREPARED.

ぴよい!
YOINK

PACKAGE: HAND WARMER

WELL, I PAID 300 YEN* FOR THE DRINK BAR, AND I'M GOING TO GET MY MONEY'S WORTH.

...it's also really embarrassing!!

And it's relaxing, but...

IT'S STARTING TO REALLY FEEL LIKE HOME AROUND HERE...

*ABOUT $3

OH...THEN I GUESS I'LL UPDATE MY BLOG...

OKAY, FIRST, I'LL PLAY SOME DS.

UH...HEY, BUDDHA. IT'S GETTING CROWDED... AND THE RESTAURANT STAFF ARE LOOKING AT US...

CHATTER

CHATTER

TA-TAK TAK TAK TAK TA-TAK

FOUR HOURS LATER

HA HA HA. DON'T WORRY.

OH, SORRY, MISS! HE DIDN'T MEAN IT!

IF IT TAKES THREE YEARS TO WARM A COLD STONE ...

...I CAN ENDURE IN A FAMILY RESTAURANT FOR EIGHT HOURS.

HE WOULD AT LEAST ORDER SOUP IF HE WAS GONNA STAY THAT LONG!

DON'T DRAG THE RESTAU-RANT STAFF INTO YOUR ASCETIC TRAINING!

Siddhartha-sama... This is what you're ignoring me for?

Oh, Son... You're still doing that?

Why can't you learn to read the room?

PRICK

PRICK

PRICK

PRICK

BEFORE I RENOUNCED THE WORLD, I WOULD MEDITATE IN THE PALACE GARDEN FOR HOURS.

COMPARED TO THE LOOKS MY FAMILY GAVE ME THEN, THIS IS NOTHING.

OH, YOU'RE RIGHT...

AND LOOK AT OUR WAITRESS. SHE DOESN'T LOOK MAD AT ALL.

OH. SHALL I GET THOSE CUPS OUT OF YOUR WAY?

IT'S FINE. THERE ARE TOO MANY CUSTOMERS HERE FOR THAT.

IF THEY REMEMBER WHAT WE LOOK LIKE, IT'LL BE AWKWARD COMING BACK!

LET'S GO HOME!

The non-smoking section isn't full, either.

THANK YOU FOR TAKING SUCH GOOD CARE OF US.

BUT THIS RESTAU-RANT WARMS MY HEART.

IT'S NOTHING. AFTER ALL...

It makes me want to bless them.

THE TEMPERA-TURE IS COOL...

NOT AT ALL. PLEASE, TAKE YOUR TIME.

Hee hee.

YOU DON'T MIND? I FEEL KIND OF BAD, STAYING HERE SO LONG...

THEY SAY THE CUSTOMER IS KING.

BUT HERE... THE CUSTOMER IS GOD.

YOU HAVE US CONFUSED WITH SOMEBODY ELSE.

...

STILL, WE PANICKED AND LEFT THE RESTAU-RANT...

MAYBE OUR T-SHIRTS WERE TOO OBVIOUS...

...HOW DID SHE FIGURE IT OUT?

100 seats
Donies
2 F

EVEN THEY COULD NOT ESCAPE THE ENDLESS CYCLE OF COUPON SAMSARA.

THAT MEANS WE *HAVE* TO GO BACK!

THIS TIME I GOT A COUPON FOR FREE ICE CREAM.

Hmmm.

OH, IT MIGHT BE AWKWARD GOING BACK...

BUT I WONDER IF THERE'S A SAINTS' DISCOUNT ...

BUT SHOULD I HAVE GIVEN HER AN AUTOGRAPH OF SOME-THING?

BUT ...

It's not that I *didn't* think of it...

I've never seen him meditate so intently...
TEA
ORANGE
ORANGE
COLA
Here
Ohh...
Pondering the truths of the universe and the mysteries of the clear liquid that comes from the self-serve drink machine along with the orange juice...
It doesn't taste watered-down...
CLINK

SAINT YOUNG MEN

WHAT IS WITH THIS APART-MENT?!

~3DK ¥83,000

10 min. walking

501	¥66,000
302	¥48,000
402	¥80,000
105	¥83,000

Northwest Homes, inc.

1DK plus bath

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CLOSET

DK

SHOES AND STOCKING

UB

Recommended

Apartment for Rent 3

Enjoy a quiet environment close to the station. For sale and rent.

4 AC units
Furnished Kitchen
Shoe Cabinet
On-site parking
1 space free

WHOA ...!

OOHH! IT LOOKS LIKE IT'S GOT PLENTY OF STORAGE SPACE, TOO!

IT'S BIGGER THAN OUR PLACE, AND IT HAS A BATH.

BUT IT'S CHEAPER!

SIGN: PERFECT HOUSE, RENTALS, SALES

SHIRT: 30 PIECES OF SILVER

OH! JESUS!!

BUDDHA!! I FOUND AN INCREDIBLY INNOVATIVE WAY TO SOLVE OUR STORAGE PROBLEM!

KA-CHAK

I WAS OUT GETTING BOXES TO SHIP STUFF BACK TO HEAVEN,

BECAUSE BUDDHA SAID IF WE GOT ANY MORE STUFF WE WOULDN'T HAVE ROOM FOR IT ALL, BUT...

...OKAY!

WHAT? BUT THERE'S STUFF ALL OVER THE FLOOR...

ACTU-ALLY, SO DID I!

I FOUND A WAY TO UTILIZE SPACE MORE EFFECTIVELY!

BY LEVI-TATING, WE INSTANTLY TRANSFORM THE AIR INTO A LOFT!

EXACTLY— IT'S VISIBLE STORAGE, USING THE MOST UNDER-USED SPACE OF ALL... THE FLOOR!

FLOAT

ふよ～～

クシナガラ

SHIRT: KUSHINAGAR

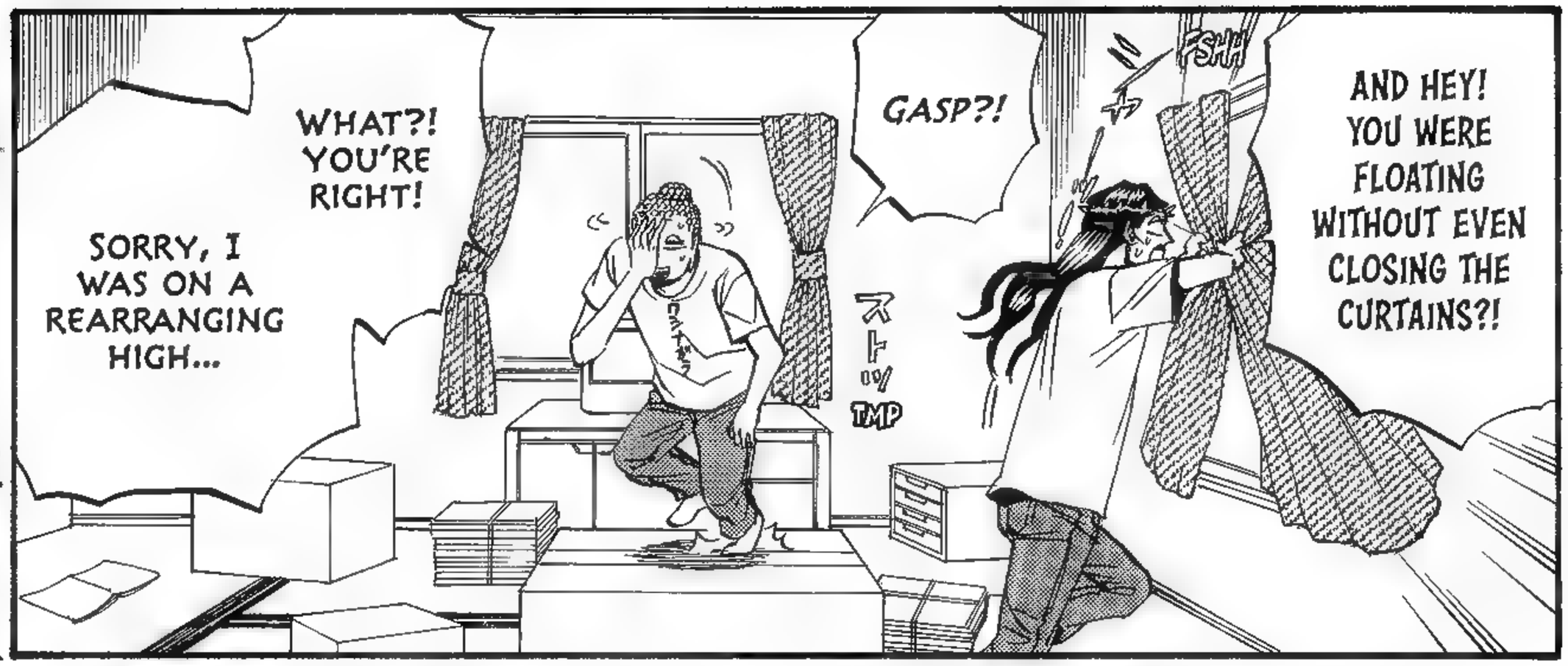
WE MUSTN'T USE HEAVENLY STORAGE TECH-NIQUES!

SAINT YOUNG MEN

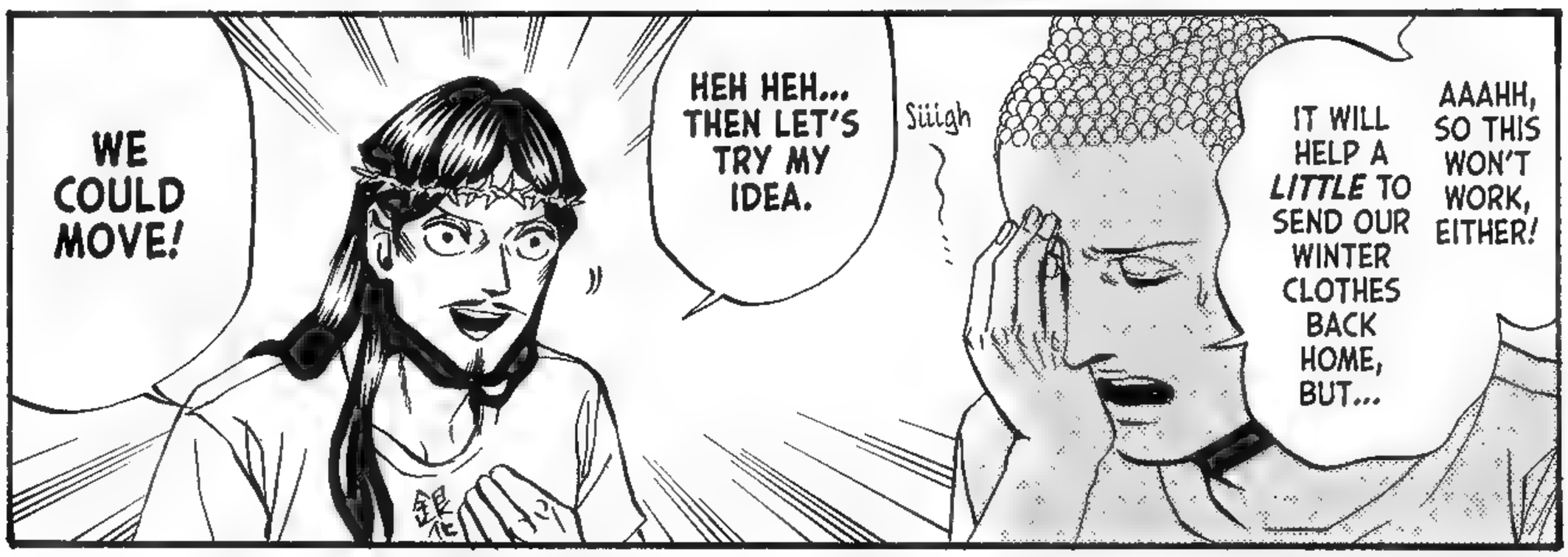
Chapter 17

Miracle Apartment

BUDDHA: FAVORITE GAME IS SHOGI (JAPANESE CHESS). FINDS IT VERY MOVING WHEN A PAWN GETS PROMOTED.


SORRY, I WAS ON A REARRANGING HIGH...
WHAT?! YOU'RE RIGHT!
GASP?!
FSH!!
AND HEY! YOU WERE FLOATING WITHOUT EVEN CLOSING THE CURTAINS?!
ストップ TMP

JESUS: FAVORITE GAME IS HIS ONLINE RPG. HAS GOTTEN HIS CHARACTER SO STRONG, IT CAN SHOOT AN ARROW FROM TOKYO TO PHUKET.


WE COULD MOVE!
HEH HEH... THEN LET'S TRY MY IDEA.
Siiigh
IT WILL HELP A *LITTLE* TO SEND OUR WINTER CLOTHES BACK HOME, BUT...
AAAHH, SO THIS WON'T WORK, EITHER!

WELL... I *DID* TURN OVER A CHAIR...
AND STARTED FLIPPING FURNITURE OVER TO CHASE THE SALES-PEOPLE OUT.
AND WHAT'S THERE TO BE AFRAID OF? I HEARD ONE TIME YOU WENT TO THE TEMPLE...
It sounded awfully violent...

WOW! BUT WAIT...WHAT WERE YOU DOING AT A REAL ESTATE OFFICE?
I WAS CHECKING OUT ADS AT A REAL ESTATE OFFICE, AND I FOUND A REALLY GOOD APARTMENT!

YOU DON'T NEED TO WORRY ABOUT THEM. JUST TELL THEM WE DON'T HAVE ANY MONEY!
Auto-lock?! Only fancy places have those!
THOSE PUSHY DOOR-TO-DOOR SALESMEN REALLY SCARE ME...
I WAS LOOKING FOR A CHEAP PLACE WITH AN AUTO-LOCK.

KA-CRASH
ガッシャアーン

THAT'S HOW YOU HIDE FROM EARTH-QUAKES, NOT SALESMEN!

I WAS TRYING TO HIDE UNDER IT.

BUT I PUSHED TOO HARD AND ENDED UP FLIPPING IT LIKE A COFFEE TABLE...

I BET IT WAS SCARY FOR THE SALESPEOPLE, TOO, HAVING SOMEONE GO BERSERK ON THEM LIKE THAT.

Ugh!! It is written, my house is the house of prayer!!

Uh...

Heh heh...

I'M THE TYPE WHO DOES BETTER UNDER PRESSURE.

I HAD TO SAY *SOME-THING* AFTER THAT, SO THAT'S WHERE THE SPEECH CAME FROM.

*40,000/MONTH, ABOUT $400

WHAT? REALLY?

I BET YOU'LL BE SUR-PRISED.

THE REAL ESTATE OFFICE IS OVER BY THE STATION. LET'S JUST CHECK IT OUT.

YOU KNOW WE CAN'T AFFORD ANY MORE THAN THE 40 THOUSAND* WE'RE PAYING HERE.

BUT YOU SAID IT'S A GOOD APART-MENT?

SIGN: RENTALS, SALES, PERFECT HOMES

...WHAT?!

NO WAY!

HEH HEH... WE'LL SEE ABOUT THAT.

LET'S GO INSIDE. WE CAN AT LEAST ASK TO GO SEE THE PLACE.

RIGHT? AND THEY'LL TAKE FOREIGNERS, TOO...

THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE... IT EVEN HAS A BATH!

COME ON IN!

HAVE A SEAT AND I'LL BE WITH YOU IN A MOMENT.

WHRRR

EXCUSE ME, WE WERE LOOKING AT THE FLIERS OUTSIDE...

OH, YEAH, I REMEMBER THAT!

Joseph-san, right?

BELIEVE IT OR NOT, I'M A BLUE-COLLAR SAINT!

YOU KNOW, BECAUSE I WAS RAISED BY A CARPENTER.

I'VE LIKED LOOKING AT FLOORPLANS EVER SINCE I WAS A KID.

WOW, LOOK AT ALL THESE DIFFERENT PROPERTIES.

UH.

NO, SORRY...

IF WE HAD LAND, COULDN'T YOU JUST BUILD US A HOUSE?!

HEY, THAT GIVES ME AN IDEA!

SAYS THE GUY WHO'S ALREADY BEEN NAILED TO A CROSS?!

I'M TOO SCARED I'D HIT MY FINGERS OR SOMETHING.

I PREFER TO AVOID TOUCHING NAILS AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE...

WHOA, THIS IS AWESOME.

LOOK AT THIS CONDO IN ROPPONGI!

WELL, IT'D BE HARDER TO BUY LAND IN TOKYO THAN TO RENT A PLACE ANYWAY.

WOW, THEY'RE REALLY PUSHING THEIR LUCK.

銀貞

Is it ascetic training?

クニナガラ

AREN'T PEOPLE SCARED TO LIVE THAT HIGH OFF THE GROUND?

IT SAYS THE BUILDING HAS 42 FLOORS!

Luxury Original Just for you

12

28F

20

DEN

THEY EVEN DO THEIR FLIERS IN COLOR.

YEAH, IT WOULD BE PRETTY ANNOYING TO HAVE OUR LANGUAGES CONFOUNDED ANY MORE THAN THEY ALREADY ARE.

I THINK THE STAKES IN THIS GAME OF CHICKEN ARE JUST TOO HIGH.

HOW MANY FLOORS DO THEY THINK THEY CAN BUILD BEFORE MY DAD GOES ALL "TOWER OF BABEL" ON THEM?

OH! IS THAT THE PROPERTY YOU'RE INTERESTED IN?

NO, OF COURSE NOT!

Hi.

OH! THANK YOU FOR SEEING US!

OF COURSE, ANY PLACE THAT *DID* MANAGE TO REACH HEAVEN WOULD BE A LOT LESS SCARY TO LIVE IN.

OH, COME ON.

LOOKING AT THEM, I'D SAY THEIR BUDGET IS ABOUT 50,000?

THERE ARE ONLY TWO OF US. WE DON'T NEED THAT MUCH SPACE.

THANK YOU FOR WAITING!

OH, YOU MEAN...

LIKE THIS APARTMENT? SEVEN ROOMS PLUS KITCHEN, DINING ROOM, AND DEN?!

How embar-rassing...

...WHAT?!

YOU USED TO LIVE IN A PLACE AT LEAST THIS BIG, ALL BY YOURSELF.

THREE KITCHENS AND...40,000 DINING ROOMS?!

WHAT!

OH, NO, K ISN'T FOR KITCHEN...

I wish I could have visited you there.

YEAH, THAT'S THE ONE.

...THE 3K 40,000D 7GAT I LIVED IN WHEN I WAS YOUNG?

...THAT'S WHAT I MEANT.

FOR WINTER

FOR SUMMER

FOR MONSOON SEASON

IT HAD THREE KINGLY PALACES, 40,000 DANCERS, AND SEVEN GATES WITH A GUARD FOR EACH ONE.

WELL, THAT WASN'T A HOME SO MUCH AS AN OFFICE...

JETAVANA WAS PRETTY BIG, TOO, RIGHT? HOW MANY ROOMS WAS THAT?

...KING-LY...

W-WE CAN GET A COSIGNER!

GULP

WHAT?!

...WE DON'T HANDLE ANY OF THE KIND OF PROPERTIES THAT DIVINE BEINGS LIKE YOURSELVES WOULD BE LOOKING FOR!

MAYBE HE'S A DEVIL WORSHIPER.

B-DMP ドキ

HE GOT MAD WHEN HE FOUND OUT WE'RE DIVINE BEINGS...

IT'S REALLY SMALL! DON'T SAY I DIDN'T WARN YOU!

AND YOU WANT THIS STUDIO APARTMENT?

ドキ B-DMP

OOOHH! IT'S VERY NICE!

THIS IS THE 30,000 YEN APARTMENT YOU WANTED TO SEE.

SIGN: DELICIOUS LUNCHES

WELL, YES, BUT IT DEPENDS ON THE PET...

DO YOU HAVE A SPECIFIC PET IN MIND?

AND WE CAN NEGOTIATE ON PETS HERE?

CLANG カン カン CLANG

PERSONALLY, I'D LIKE TO KEEP YOU AS FAR FROM CONVENIENCE STORES AS POSSIBLE...

LET'S DO IT, BUDDHA! LET'S MOVE HERE!

WAIT A... IT'S NEXT DOOR TO A CONVENIENCE STORE!

おいしいお弁当

UH, YES, IT CHANGES EVERY DAY. IT'S PRETTY RANDOM.

Heh heh...

WE WON'T HAVE TO CHASE THEM OUT RIGHT AWAY.

OH, RIGHT. IF WE MOVE HERE, THEN WHEN THE ANIMALS COME TO TAKE BUDDHA TO NIRVANA,

UGH. WE HAVE TO SEE INSIDE FIRST!

銀貨76杯

RIP
RIP
RIP
IT MIGHT EAT THE TATAMI, SO WE CANNOT ALLOW THAT!
BUT I DON'T THINK WE'LL GET ANYTHING BIGGER THAN A COW...
IN A SENSE, YOU COULD SAY IT'S A GIANT FAD ALL ACROSS INDIA...
?
HUH? WELL...
IS THAT ONE OF YOUR "DIVINE BEING" FADS?
IS THIS SOME LOHAS* THING?
WHY WOULD YOU WANT A COW?
*ACRONYM FOR "LIFESTYLES OF HEALTH AND SUSTAINABILITY"
WITH THIS MUCH SPACE, I COULD INVITE MY DISCIPLES OVER!
OH! AND I CAN HANG KANDATA FROM HERE.
I COULD PUT JR. HERE...
IT'S A RELATIVELY NEW BUILDING, AND IT'S VERY CLEAN!
ANYWAY, LET'S GO INSIDE...
RAHULA-KUN? IS HE THAT MUCH OF A CLEAN FREAK?
PSST ポン
IN THAT CASE, MAYBE I COULD INVITE MY SON OVER...
THE BATH-ROOM'S CLEAN, TOO...
WHOA, YOU'RE RIGHT! AND IT'S SO BIG!

WHAT THE HECK?! SOUNDS MORE LIKE HE'S TRYING TO BE A MARTYR THAN TO SHOW RESPECT!

I can't believe this kid!

Hmmm, this is as good as I deserve...

mumble mumble

NO, BUT WHEN RAHULA VISITS PEOPLE WHO RANK HIGHER THAN HIM, HE ALWAYS SLEEPS IN THE BATH-ROOM...

WELL, I THINK *YOU* GUYS ARE TOO CASUAL!

Not at all...

Doesn't he call you "Daddy" at home or anything?

AND "RANKS HIGHER"?

YOU GUYS ARE *REALLY* STRICT...

O-OH, THIS GOES WAY BEYOND THAT...

THE CHUO LINE PASSES RIGHT BY HERE. YOU CAN GO STRAIGHT TO SHIN-JUKU...

GLARE

ARE YOU SURE YOU CAN RENT OUT A PLACE LIKE THIS?!

WE'VE GOTTEN A BILLION COMPLAINTS ABOUT GHOSTS PARADING THROUGH THIS ROOM AT NIGHT!

THE TRUTH IS...

Eeek!

UH... ANYWAY, THIS APARTMENT IS IN A VERY GOOD LOCATION!

WAIT... THIS ROOM...

HM? ANYWAY, LET'S LOOK AT THE LIVING ROOM...

THEY... THEY CAN TELL?!

YOU CAN GO STRAIGHT TO THE AFTERLIFE FROM HERE, AND YOU'RE RENTING IT FOR ONLY 30,000 YEN?!

⇧ Heaven

THERE'S A SPIRIT PATH RIGHT IN THE CORNER OF THE ROOM...

I...I UNDERSTAND. YOU'RE ABSOLUTELY RIGHT...

WOW, BUT TO THINK WE CAN GET IT FOR JUST 30,000...

WELL, IT *IS* ONE-WAY, SO WE'D HAVE TO TAKE A PLANE BACK THROUGH NARITA...

YOU CAN ONLY MAKE A ROUND-TRIP DURING OBON.

WHY ARE YOU MAKING IT EVEN CHEAPER ?!

?!

I WON'T ASK FOR A DEPOSIT!

MATSUDA: THE LANDLADY OF THE APARTMENT WHERE BUDDHA AND JESUS LIVE. HATES THAT SHE LOST TO HER GRANDKIDS IN MARIO KART.

IF I'D HAD MY SIGNATURE SEAL, I THINK I WOULD HAVE STAMPED THE CONTRACT RIGHT THEN AND THERE!

And that realtor seemed to be a saint, too...

MAN, THAT REALLY WAS A MIRACLE APARTMENT!

THAT'S TRUE.

AND WE COULD ASK MARK TO COSIGN FOR US AGAIN...

Hmmm...

WE COULD SOLVE OUR BATH PROBLEM AND OUR STORAGE PROBLEM IN ONE FELL SWOOP!

SO LET'S THINK ABOUT MOVING IN!

A CAR?

BUT NONE OF MY DISCIPLES OR ANGELS HAVE A CAR...

Jr.: For example, would be a nightmare.

BUT HOW DO WE MOVE ALL THE STUFF WE'VE ACCUMULATED?

WE JUST HAD TO SHIP A FEW PACKAGES TO MOVE HERE.

OH, NO! IT'S NOTHING, REALLY!

JOLT

M-MATSUDA-SAN!!

AND JUST WHAT DO YOU NEED A CAR FOR?

OH, GOOD QUESTION... WE'LL NEED A CAR.

HMMM...? WELL, OKAY THEN...

I WOULDN'T MIND LETTING YOU BORROW IT.

LET ME KNOW IF YOU EVER WANT TO USE MINE.

YOU BOYS KEEP YOUR APARTMENT NICE AND CLEAN...

IT'S NO TROUBLE, REALLY.

MATSUDA-SAN...

M... MATSUDA-SAN...

BUT...BUT WE CAN'T LET EMOTIONS TIE US TO THIS HOME...!

AN UNEXPECTED RAHULA* IS HOLDING US BACK FROM MOVING!

*DERIVED FROM A SANSKRIT WORD ROUGHLY MEANING "OBSTACLE"

HNNGH... A HALO... MATSUDA-SAN IS RADIATING GOOD-NESS!!

I'M SORRY I WAS SO RELUCTANT TO LET YOU MOVE IN...

NN... HNNNGH ...

Y...YOU FALLING-FOR-ANYTHING STAR OF BETHLEHEM!

May you prosper 1,000 years!!

WAAAH!

THIS IS MY HOUSE OF PRAYER!!

WELL, WHATEVER. WE DON'T NEED A PLACE WITH A BATH.

...SEEMS TO REALLY LIKE THIS APART-MENT...

WAAH!

WHAT... WHAT'S GOTTEN INTO YOU, SEI-SAN?!

I WILL MAKE THIS MY SECOND BETHLEHEM!!

Sigh

NO...I'M SORRY. HE JUST...

YES!!

I know that now!!

Y-YOU LIKE IT THAT MUCH?

Heh heh...

IT JUST FEELS SO COMFORT-ING... IT'S LIKE...

HERE, WE HAVE SOMETHING EVEN WARMER.

IT CALLS BACK MEMORIES FROM WHEN I WAS BORN...

NO, BEFORE THAT...

THE HOUSE I LIVED IN AS A CHILD...

YES, IT'S JUST LIKE...

...A STABLE.

SIGH... NOW I'M GOING TO HAVE TO GET BACK TO REARRANGING OUR STUFF.

WELL, BECAUSE YOU CLEARLY INSULTED HER...

Whew!

SHUT 11"

WOW, THAT WAS SCARY. WHY DID SHE GET SO MAD?

HUH? UH, WELL...

POTTERY SET

BUT YOU'VE ONLY USED IT ONCE.

YOU DON'T... WANT IT?

WHAT.

Nice idea!

I COULD SEND THIS POTTERY WHEEL BACK HOME!

OH, I'LL HELP.

I'LL USE IT RIGHT NOW! I'M TOTALLY GONNA START USING IT ALL THE TIME!!

RUSTLE

I'M SORRY, I'LL USE IT!!

RUSTLE

RUSH

WHY DO YOU KEEP DOING THAT WHEN YOU DON'T EVEN USE THEM?

...WE'RE ONLY EVEN IN THIS MESS BECAUSE YOU CAN'T STOP BUYING THESE BIG, BULKY ITEMS!

ALL DONE!

DING!

AND SO...

ACTUALLY, BUDDHA'S SILK SCREEN SET IS TAKING UP SPACE, TOO.

SOMEHOW I DOUBT YOU USED THE POTTERY WHEEL TO MAKE THAT.

Like a beware of dog sign...

TURF OF THE FLAME OF GOD ARCHANGEL URIEL

I'll hang pushy salesmen up by their tongues and set them on fire!

30 枚

I MADE THIS TO KEEP PUSHY SALESMEN AWAY. WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Would you please stop turning him into a coat rack?!
WHIRL
WHIRL
I found a way to use the pottery wheel...

SAINT YOUNG MEN

THESE VESTIGES OF THEIR JOURNEYS...

WHEN GREAT PERSONAGES TRAVEL, THEY LEAVE CLEAR FOOTPRINTS.

OKAY, WHAT'S ONE PLUS TWO?

...MAY BE A MEMENTO FOR THE LOCAL RESIDENTS, WHO WISH TO NEVER FORGET THAT THE PERSON THEY ADORED GRACED THEM WITH THEIR PRESENCE.

THANK YOU SO M...

HUH? I DON'T RECALL TURNING THE FLASH ON...

URK!!

KA-

THREE!

THEN, EXCUSE ME, WE'D LIKE A PHOTO, TOO...

...?

N-NO, IT'S ALL RIGHT!

WHAT? DO I NEED TO TAKE IT AGAIN?

WHOA, AWESOME!!

THANK YOU VERY MUCH!

Thank you for riding the Odoriko Limited Express
Shuzenji Station
Amagi Tourism Board

SNAP

DID YASUNARI KAWABATA WRITE A STORY LIKE THAT?

ガ GRG
ガ GRG
ガ GRG
ガ GRG

LET'S TAKE IT FROM THIS SIDE!

IT'S REVERSIBLE!

BUT WOW, THAT'S A HIGH-QUALITY STANDEE...

COME ON BY!
THE HEAVENS
GENERAL AFTERLIFE FEDERATION

SAINT YOUNG MEN

Chapter 18

Passport to Paradise

BUDDHA: HAS A LOT OF HOUSEWIFE ACQUAINTANCES BECAUSE HE'S ALWAYS GOING TO FLASH SALES AT THE NEIGHBORHOOD SUPERMARKET.

WELL, WHAT DID YOU EXPECT?!

I MEAN, COME ON!

LOOK AT US. I GUESS WE'RE MORE EXCITED ABOUT THIS THAN I REALIZED.

WHOA ...

JESUS: SOMETIMES HELPS OUT AT THE NEIGHBORHOOD TOY STORE.

...WOULD ACTUALLY WIN YOU A TRIP TO THE SHUZENJI HOT SPRINGS!

CLANG

CLANG

NAMU-SAN!!

SECOND PRIZE!!

OOHH!!!

WHO WOULD HAVE DREAMED THAT YOUR REVENGE MATCH* WITH THE SHOPPING STREET LOTTERY...

*WON A BUDDHA STATUE IN THE LAST LOTTERY. (SEE VOLUME 1)

THE BUS IS NOW LEAVING FOR THE SHUZENJI HOT SPRINGS!

VROOOM

AND WE'RE ALREADY HERE, SO LET'S JUST DIVE IN AND HAVE FUN!

Look, I even have my Rurubu travel guide!

Izu Rurubu

OH! WAIT FOR US, WE'RE GETTING ON!

N-NO, IT'S OKAY!

TO CHEAT ...

MAYBE I'M SUBCONSCIOUSLY USING MY DIVINE POWERS...

IF YOU WERE DOING THAT, I THINK YOU'D GO FOR THIRD PRIZE—THE RICE GIFT CARD!

SILENCE

NO, JESUS...

YOU REALLY ARE LUCKY IN LOTTERIES!

ISN'T IT STRANGE? I GOT SECOND PRIZE TWICE IN A ROW...

PLEASE MAKE YOUR-SELVES AT HOME!

WELCOME TO IZU, EVERY-ONE!

OF COURSE, WE'VE DONE THAT SORT OF THING, TOO.

I LOVE IT. IT REALLY FEELS LIKE I'M THERE!

WOW, OUR GUIDE IS DRESSED AS THE DANCING GIRL FROM IZU!

...CAUSING HOT WATER TO SPRING UP FROM THAT VERY SPOT.

Hiyaa!

AND...

ACCORDING TO LEGEND, THE HOT SPRINGS AT SHUZENJI WERE FORMED WHEN KOBO DAISHI STRUCK A ROCK WITH HIS VAJRA...

WOW, NICE MIRACLE... BUT WAIT...

IF ONE OF MY FOLLOWERS CREATED A HOT SPRING...

HUH? I DON'T KNOW...

COULDN'T YOU DO THAT, TOO?!

YOU SHOULD TRY POKING OUR YARD WHEN WE GET HOME!

YEAH. AND WE LEVITATE WHILE RADIATING LIGHT...

Welcome to Heaven

WE'LL WEAR ALL WHITE AND STUFF.

TO GET EVERYBODY EXCITED ABOUT COMING TO THE HEAVENS ...

I'm really in Heaven!!

Whoa! It's really them!!

OF COURSE, WHEN I DO IT TOO MUCH, MY DISCIPLES COME CRYING TO ME, BEGGING ME TO STOP RAISING THE BAR SO HIGH.

EVEN THE MOST HARDCORE HOT SPRING BUFF WOULD RUN SCREAMING FROM THAT CHALLENGE.

I like my baths on the lukewarm side...

THEN IF *I* TRIED IT, I THINK WE'D GET A SPRING OF HOT LAVA.

INTERESTING... THEN MAYBE...

やっぱり 温泉が 好き

水桶返し

OOOH, I CAN SMELL THE HOT SPRINGS!

AND HERE WE ARE AT OUR DESTINATION!

HAPPY TRAVELS!

BUDDHA'S SHIRT: OVERTURNED BUCKET, JESUS' SHIRT: I'M A DONKEY MAN MYSELF

OH, NO... JESUS, ARE YOU OKAY?!

IT'S PURPLE ?!

WHAT THE?! THERE'S A NEW SPRING OVER THERE!!

SPSHHHHH

SPLOOOSH

IF *I* DID IT, MAYBE WE'D GET A HOT SPRING THAT'S JUST RIGHT.

HIYA!

HEH

N-NO, I'M FINE. IT'S COLD ...

WHAT IS THAT?! HOT WINE?!

But my phone...

Did it burn you?!

水桶返し

THIS... THIS IS...!!

HA HA HA. DON'T DO THAT. NOT WITH YOUR PHONE'S ANTENNA...

CLUNK

WE'VE FOUND A NATURAL FANTA SPRING!!!

FZZ

FZZ

FZZ

FANTA ...

JESUS...

WOOHOO! I'M GONNA DIRECT THIS INTO MY HOUSE'S PLUMBING!!

FZZ

シュワ FZZ

シュワ FIZZ

IT'S GRAPE!!

WHAT FLAVOR ?!

I GUESS WITH MY BLOOD CELLS, ANYTHING GOES AS LONG AS IT'S GRAPE FLAVORED.

But I prefer orange Fanta...

DOES FANTA COUNT AS YOUR BLOOD, TOO?

水桶返し

I MEAN, NOW WHEN WE WASH IT, IT WILL GET ALL SPLOTCHY!

I made it for special occasions...

NO! I WAS PROUD OF THAT ONE.

BUT LOOK! MY SHIRT IS PURPLE NOW! DON'T I LOOK COOL?!

水神返し

HERE IS YOUR ROOM.

WELCOME, SEI-SAMA.

OH! I THINK THAT'S OUR INN!

ANYWAY, IF WE GET TO THE INN AND WASH IT RIGHT NOW, THEN MAYBE...

Proud of it...?

ISN'T IT A LITTLE EARLY TO PUT THOSE ON?!

KWIK

KWIK

KWIK

ISN'T THIS ROOM AMAZING?

LET'S CHANGE INTO NEW T-SHIRTS AND GO EXPLORING ...

OOOHH!

WE CAN STILL GO OUT— WEARING THESE!

COME ON, BUDDHA! YOU GET CHANGED, TOO!

And it's the middle of the day...!

WE'RE STILL PLANNING TO GO OUT...

WHAT A NICE VIEW!

WHAT?! THESE ARE PING-PONG UNIFORMS?!

IF YOU'RE NOT WEARING A YUKATA, WE CAN'T GO PLAY PING-PONG!

WAIT, WE'RE GOING TO GO PLAY PING-PONG ***NOW?***

At least, based on everything I've seen on TV.

WHEN IT COMES TO HOT SPRINGS PING-PONG, THAT'S THE OFFICIAL RULE.

I DON'T KNOW IF I CAN HIT THAT BALL— IT'S SO LITTLE.

WE'LL START WITH A PRACTICE ROUND. JUST KEEP HITTING THE BALL BACK AND FORTH.

DON'T WORRY, YOU WON'T LET IT FALL!

WHAT? REALLY?!

ACTUALLY, I'VE NEVER PLAYED IT BEFORE...

WHAT? JUST A— WAIT! THAT'S GONNA GIVE ME WAY TOO MUCH STRESS...

THWACK

JUST IMAGINE THAT IT'S THE EARTH!

BUT YOU'RE GOOD AT SPORTS— YOU'LL PICK IT UP IN NO TIME!

I FIGURED IT WOULD HELP YOU IMPROVE FASTER...

YEAH, BECAUSE YOU SAID IT WAS EARTH!!

110

KA-PONG

NAMU-SAN!!

NAMU-SAN!

KA-PONG

AMEN!

KA-PING

OOHH! I KNEW YOU COULD DO IT, BUDDHA!

NUH-UH! YOU'RE THE ONE WHO'S MESSING UP THE EARTH'S NATURAL ROTATION SPEED BY ADDING THAT SPIN...

WAIT, ARE YOU REALLY A BEGINNER ?!

PA-PA-PING

PA-PONG

HEY! STOP THAT! KEEP HITTING IT THAT HARD, AND THE OZONE LAYER WILL...

IF ONLY... IF ONLY I HAD MORE POWER...!

A PLANET THAT HOUSES SO MANY LIVES...

BE...

BUT IT'S THE EARTH.

I...I CAN'T REACH!

Even after dislocating my arm!

AH!

JIMINY CRICK-ETS!!

IF I DON'T GET MY HEAD IN THE GAME, I'LL LOSE!!

RING

The only sport I'm good at!!

NO NO NO

ZWRRRRRRR

Ping Pong for Beginners

BE KIND TO OUR PLANET !!!

...

WAAAAH! THESE ARMS!!

しゃきーん SKRK

HUH?

SKRK しゃきーん

B-BUDDHA, YOU...

THUNK THA- THUNK

I'M SORRY, BUDDHA !!

I HAD NO IDEA THIS WAS SUCH HARD ASCETIC TRAINING THAT YOU WOULD REACH NEW REALMS OF BUDDHAHOOD!

WAAH

わさ WAVE

わさ WAVE

わさ WAVE

TAKE A PICTURE!! TAKE A PICTURE, JESUS!

I SAW THE THOUSAND ARMED KANNON, AND I ALWAYS WISHED I COULD BE LIKE THAT! NOW I FINALLY AM!!

OH! SEI-SAMA!

YEAH, BUDDHA! PUT THOSE AWAY!!

わさ WAVE

わさ WAVE

...IT LOOKS LIKE I MULTIPLIED THE RACKETS, TOO.

OHH, THANK YOU VERY MUCH!

OH! YOU'LL DO THAT?!

SHALL I BRING YOUR LUNCH TO YOUR ROOM?

I DON'T SUPPOSE EITHER OF YOU IS HUNGRY?

ISN'T IT GREAT?!

ANYWAY, I'VE NEVER SEEN ANY OF THESE BEFORE...

Yeah, you only ever get fries when we eat out!

I LOVE IT HERE... THEY ACTUALLY GAVE ME VEGETARIAN FOOD!

WOW, IT LOOKS SO GOOD!!

LET'S SEE, I'M PRETTY SURE THIS GREEN ONE IS. IT'S CALLED WASABI...

GRATE

GRATE

WHICH ONES DO YOU THINK ARE IZU SPECIAL-TIES?

COOL!

CRUNCH ばり

CRUNCH ばり

CRUNCH ばり

YOU GRATE IT LIKE THIS SO YOU CAN SPRINKLE IT ON YOUR SOBA OR...

GRK ぐっ...

ARE YOU OKAY? ISN'T THAT... LIKE, SPICY BEYOND ALL REASON?

HALT ピタッ

HEY.

IT SOUNDS LIKE IT'S COMING FROM YOUR CROWN OF THORNS...

WH-WHAT'S THIS ALARM?!

ERRRRRRRT

ピピピピ

CLUNK

WAIT! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!

VWIIIP

ピー

WHAT DID YOU JUST PULL?!

BAM

WHAT IN THE WORLD IS GOING ON...?

WHO IS PERSECUTING JESUS-SAMA?

CRACKLE

CRACKLE

WAS IT THIS GREEN FRUIT?

WAKE UP, JESUS! YOUR PRIVATE SECURITY SYSTEM IS TERRIFYING!!!

I PULL THE BUZZER, AND URIEL'S HERE FIVE SECONDS LATER...

Nnngh...!

SLASH

SLASH

SLASH

SLASH

BE CURSED, DEVIL FRUIT...

LET NO FRUIT GROW ON THE WASABI TREE HENCEFORTH UNTIL THE END OF DAYS!!!

STAAARE

SLRRRP

He's watching...

YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO GRATE IT LIKE THIS...

THERE. TRY THIS SOBA!

TWITCH

TWITCH

I THINK THAT GREEN BUMPY THING IS AN INCARNATION OF SATAN...

Have some water!

IT WAS SO SPICY YOU HAD TO CALL THE ANGEL OF DESTRUCTION?!

UGH, YOU JUST DIDN'T KNOW HOW TO EAT IT.

YOU MAY BEAR FRUIT!!

HALLE-LUJAH!

...BLESS-INGS UPON IT!!

HONESTLY, YOU ARE SO...!!

I'M JUST GLAD TO SEE YOU ARE SAFE.

NYOOOP

YOU TRIED TO CURSE NATTO THE FIRST TIME YOU ATE IT, TOO...

AAH, THAT LITTLE KICK MAKES THE SOBA THREE TIMES YUMMIER.

Whew

HUH? WAIT A MINUTE. URIEL-SAN...

NO, I WAS NEARBY.

IF YOU LIKE, YOU COULD JOIN US FOR DINNER...

IT MUST HAVE BEEN A HARD TRIP!

THAT'S ALL RIGHT. IT IS MY JOB.

SORRY FOR CALLING YOU DOWN HERE FOR A SILLY THING LIKE THIS.

ANYWAY, IT'S GOOD TO SEE YOU, URIEL!

OH, THERE YOU ARE, URIEL!!

STOMP

STOMP

AND YOU HAVE THAT POST-HOT SPRING GLOW...

WHY ARE YOU WEARING A YUKATA FROM THIS INN?

I'M SORRY YOU HAD TO COME ALL THE WAY FROM HEAVEN.

HAHAHAHAHA

I USED THE REST OF IT! I FEEL SUPER HEALED!!

You act like you're made of money!

YOU STILL HAD SOME TIME LEFT ON THE MASSAGE CHAIR!!

STOMP STOMP STOMP STOMP STOMP STOMP

JESUS-SAMA IS HERE.

LOOK, LOOK. "ANGEL OF HEALING, RAPHAEL, GETTING HEALED IN A MASSAGE CHAIR"...

GULP

YES! WE ARE IN JAPAN TO SHOOT A MUSIC VIDEO...

UH... NO, THAT IS A MISTAKE YOU HAVE MADE. WE ARE AMERICANS. WE ARE THE IDOL POP BAND KNOWN AS "THE ARCH-ANGELS"...

UM...

IT'S FINE! I WAS JUST WORRIED THAT ALL YOUR WEIRD LIES WOULD MAKE YOU INTO FALLEN ANGELS!

...WE... UM... USED THE SPRING BEFORE YOU...

It was the best...

WHAT... WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE? ALL FOUR ARCH-ANGELS ...

WE *HAD* TO KNOW WHAT WAS GOING ON.

WHERE IS LORD JESUS NOW? GPS

I've never had to zoom out so much before...

AND SUDDENLY YOU MAKE THIS BIG EXODUS...

IT'S JUST THAT, JESUS-SAMA, YOU NORMALLY NEVER GO FARTHER THAN A KILOMETER FROM YOUR APARTMENT.

UGH. WELL, IT DOESN'T REALLY MATTER ANYWAY.

I KNOW HE'S THINKING ABOUT HOW THEY MAKE ME WEAR A GPS...

GLANCE

GLANCE

OH, SO IT'S A GPS...

YOU KNOW, BECAUSE YOU GET PERSECUTED SO OFTEN.

AND WE WERE JUST SO WORRIED THAT WE COULDN'T HELP OUR-SELVES.

YOU HAVE NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT.

WE'RE STAYING IN THE PINE ROOM.

たんぽぽの間

JESUS-SAMA, BUDDHA-SAMA...!

BANNER: DANDELION ROOM

THE DE-STROYER ANGEL URIEL EVEN KILLS THE MOOD.

URIEL... WHAT HAVE YOU DONE?

WHAT? PINE? ISN'T THAT THEIR BEST SUITE?

YOU PROBABLY WON'T GET A ROOM ON SUCH SHORT NOTICE. WOULD YOU LIKE TO STAY WITH US?

THAT'S RIGHT!

BUT IF YOU'D JUST SAID SOMETHING, WE COULD HAVE COME ON THE TRIP TOGETHER.

Uriel, you can't try to overpower the massagers. It defeats the whole purpose!
GRG
GRG
GRG
GRG
GRG
GRG
GRG
GRG
WHRR
WHRR
Yeah, right there. At the base of my wings...

SAINT YOUNG MEN

NIGHTTIME AT A TRADITIONAL JAPANESE INN IS LIKE PARADISE IN THE PURE LAND; A VISION FROM A DREAM.

Wah ha ha ha ha!

SQUEE

SQUEE

AAHH, THAT WAS A REALLY NICE BATH!

Ahhh...

OOOH, KARAOKE! IT SOUNDS LIKE A LOT OF FUN IN THERE.

Wah ha ha ha ha!

Good one!!

OH! WOULD YOU LIKE TO DO SOME KARAOKE, SIRS?

BUT I'M HEARING MUSIC FROM THE PING-PONG ROOM ...

HUH? IT'S THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT.

C-CALM DOWN, JESUS...

COME ON, LET'S JUST TAKE A LITTLE PEEK!

What do I do if it's Arashi?!

What if it's Arashi?

I NEED A PICTURE... OH! I'M NOT PORTING MY PORTABLE PHONE!

WHY ARE THEY HERE?! ARE THEY FILMING A TV SHOW?!

WE HAVE SOME JOHNNY'S IDOLS STAYING AT THE INN.

YES, AND TONIGHT IS EXTRA SPECIAL!

WHAT? THAT'S AMAZING!

THE WORD "IDOL" ...

...MA'AM. THEY'RE NOT FROM JOHNNY'S...

OH! THERE THEY ARE...

B-DMP ドキ

B-DMP ドキ

RATTLE RATTLE

SQUEE カ

SQUEE ラ

ラ...

WHO COULD IT BE...

HAAAL-LELUJAH

HALLE-LUUUJAH

HAAAL-LELUJAH

HALLE-LUUUJAH!

HALLEEE-LUJAH

...WAS FIRST USED FOR OBJECTS OF WORSHIP.

THEY'RE THE SPOKES-IDOLS FOR MY ORGANIZA-TION...

SAINT YOUNG MEN

Chapter 19

Angels

BUDDHA: LATELY HEARS A LOT OF, "HEY, HAVE YOU PUT ON WEIGHT AGAIN?!"

MICHAEL'S ALWAYS ADDING CHOREOGRAPHY TO HYMNS AND STUFF, TOO...

Sigh

I DIDN'T THINK HANDEL'S "MESSIAH" HAD THAT KIND OF CHOREOGRAPHY...

TADAH

SQUEE

1°4 CLAP

1°4 CLAP

110° 4 CLAP

WOOHOO!

JESUS: LATELY HEARS A LOT OF, "ACT YOUR AGE."

OH, MY... IF MICHA-SAMA IS ADDING -SAMA TO *YOUR* NAME...

Hello.

COME ON, GUYS, YOU REALLY SURPRISED ME!

I'm honored!

Oh, Buddha-sama, too!

OH, JESUS-SAMA, YOU WERE WATCHING?!

UH, JESUS, I'M NOT SURE WE SHOULD GO AROUND STATING THAT AS OUR MAIN PROFESSION!

WE'RE THE COMEDY DUO, "MAN PERM AND HIPPIE."

W-WAIT! WE'RE NOT! WE'RE...

OF COURSE! THEY'RE *SUPER* IDOLS!

ARE THE TWO OF YOU ALSO IDOLS, SEI-SAMA?

Ugh!

"SEI IESU" FROM TACHI-KAWA!

NO, WAIT. SHE'S ASKING FOR MY REAL NAME, ISN'T SHE?

OOHH, THAT'S A GOOD ONE!

WHAT? OH, I'M HIPPIE...

ALL RIGHT, SEI-SAMA, AND YOU?

HE'S RIGHT. LINGUISTICALLY, THE WORD APPLIES, BUT...

THERE YOU GO! CHAGE AND ASKA!

DUN DUN DUN DUN DUN

SAY YES
(CHAGE & ASKA)

MELODY BY RYO ASKA

DUN DUN DUN DUN DUN

HUH ...?

JUST A...

FOR THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN IS AT HAND!!

RE-PENT!

FLASH

YOU'LL BE FINE, JESUS-SAMA! YOU'RE GOOD AT AD-LIBBING!

WAIT, I'VE NEVER SUNG IN FRONT OF OTHER PEOPLE BEFORE!

I might know "Banri no Kawa"!

NO!! I CAN'T SING CHAGE AND ASKA!!

JESUS-SAMA, PLEASE DON'T FALL BACK ON YOUR OLD STANDBY!!

POING わく POING わく POING

NNGH! THEY'RE ALL WATCH-ING!

GNN

OKAY, BUT! I DON'T EVEN KNOW THE MELODY...

WON'T YOU GRACE US WITH IT?

WE ALL WANT TO HEAR YOUR VOICE, JESUS-SAMA.

TOUCHED

YOU USED TO IMAGINE YOUR AUDIENCE AS DEER...

OH, YEAH, YOU DID TELL ME...

But I've kind of attained enlightenment, so may I tell you about it?

Excuse me, I don't want to bother you if you don't have the time...

YEAH, BUT I STILL WARMED UP BY PREACHING TO THE DEER FIRST!

OH

OH, PLEASE. YOU PREACHED FOR 50 YEARS STRAIGHT...

M-MICHAEL-SAN, I DON'T LIKE BEING PUT ON THE SPOT LIKE THIS, EITHER!

You kidder.

OOHH! THAT'S MY CHIEF ANGEL FOR YOU!

THANKS, MICHAEL-SAN!

Whew

SKFF

I UNDERSTAND! I, THE ARCH-ANGEL MICHAEL, WILL GET YOU OUT OF THIS!

IT'S CLEAR THAT YOU LOVE ME!

GOOD! AND NOW...

WHAT'S UP, URIEL?

OH, ARE YOU GOING TO SING CHAGE'S PART?

NO.

TMP

IT'S JUST, WHEN HE GETS TO THE END OF A SOLO...

SKFF

We'll live together, without a single care.

Why not just keep going, with our dreams hand in hand?

SERIOUSLY, I HAVE NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT WHEN HE'S AROUND.

WE'RE LUCKY TO HAVE HIM.

Whew.

...THE GRAND FINALE!

PLEASE BE CAREFUL, OR YOU'LL BRING THE *WORLD* TO ITS GRAND FINALE.

TWANNNG

...HUH?!

DID I TRY TO DO THE TRUMPET THING AGAIN?!

CLAAANG

YOU'RE UNBELIEV-ABLE...

YOU...

WAIT...WAS THAT THE TRUMPET TO SIGNAL THE END OF THE WORLD?!

I KNOW YOU LIKE GIVING POSITIVE REINFORCE-MENT, BUT THERE'S A LIMIT!

We can't let them outdo us, Buddha!!

IDOLS WHO CAN SING, DANCE, *AND* DO COMEDY?!

MICHAEL: THE CHIEF OF THE FOUR ARCH-ANGELS. RECENTLY HEARS A LOT OF, "I'M SURPRISED YOU CAN KEEP THAT LEVEL OF ENERGY FOR THAT LONG!"

UGH, SHOULD WE REALLY LEAVE THEM? THEY SAID THEY'RE NOT GOING TO GO TO BED YET...

Ah ha ha ha!

YEAH, AND THEIR "EXCITEMENT" WAS ABOUT TO END THE WORLD!

Waaah!

Aaah!

Heh heh.

I BET THEY'RE JUST EXTRA EXCITED BECAUSE THEY HAVEN'T BEEN DOWN TO EARTH IN SO LONG.

URIEL: ONE OF THE FOUR ARCH-ANGELS. RECENTLY HEARS A LOT OF, "ARE YOU UPSET?"

THAT'S REALLY NICE OF THEM. THEY LAID OUT OUR BEDDING FOR US!

OH!

RATTLE

B-BUT I DON'T REALLY WANT TO GO TO BED, EITHER...

YEAH, PULLING ALL-NIGHTERS IS KIND OF THE ARCH-ANGELS' THING...

...BUT YOU KNOW, YOU REALLY CAN'T JUDGE WASABI BY ITS COVER.

ZZ

...

JOLT!

GOOD IDEA! AND I HEARD WE COULD GET WASABI SOFT SERVE.

MAYBE WE'LL BUY SOME TO TAKE HOME WITH US.

...YEAH. IT REALLY DOESN'T LOOK VERY TASTY AT ALL...

GOOD NIGHT, JESUS.

...

ZZ

R-RIGHT... BECAUSE WE WON'T HAVE MUCH TIME BEFORE WE HAVE TO GO HOME.

WE HAVE TO GET UP BY 7:00 TOMORROW MORNING.

WE'VE ALREADY BRUSHED OUR TEETH, SO I'LL JUST TURN OFF THE LIGHTS.

MRK 47

YOU HAVE NO INTENTION OF GOING TO SLEEP AT ALL, DO YOU?!

BUT GABRIEL SAYS HE'S 100% A BIRD PERSON...

YOU KNOW, THAT REMINDS ME. RAPHAEL AND MICHAEL ARE BOTH CAT PEOPLE.

LOGGING IN? YOU MEAN PEOPLE AT THE VIRASULA PLAINS...

YOU'VE EVEN BEEN CHECKING OUT THE PAID VERSION...

YESSIR LV52

Ugh.

JOLT

PEOPLE ARE STILL JUST LOGGING IN AT 1:00 AM!

WELL, IT'S ONLY 1:00 AM!

JESUS...

AND NOW...

...to stay awake...

But I asked you...

SNORE

GASP

I ASKED MY DISCIPLES TO STAY AWAKE WITH ME, BUT THEY ALL FELL ASLEEP.

THE NIGHT BEFORE I WAS CRUCIFIED, I COULDN'T SLEEP, AND I WAS PRAYING ...

OR IS IT THAT YOU DON'T SLEEP MUCH AT ALL?

YOU'RE LIKE ONE OF THOSE NIGHT OWLS, AREN'T YOU?

"THE PEOPLE AT VIRASULA" ARE PETER-SAN AND HIS FRIENDS?!

I'm just one helpless archer...

THEY'RE ALWAYS FALLING ASLEEP IN THE MIDDLE OF MISSIONS IN OUR ONLINE GAME, SO I HAVE TO FINISH THEM ALL BY MYSELF.

Yessir: Huh? Hey.
Yessir: What's wrong?
Yessir: What? You're asleep? Do
Yessir: All of you?! What do
Petey: Sorry lol I fell asle
Yessir: Ugh!!

NOT REALLY... IT'S PRETTY COMMON FOR ME TO BE UP ALL ALONE AT NIGHT...

HEE HEE. I HOPE IT WORKS!

OKAY, I'LL TRY IT! THANKS, BUDDHA!

WOW, SHEEP, HUH... THEY DO HAVE FLUFFY, SLEEPY FACES...

HMMM, I THINK THEY SAY IT HELPS TO COUNT SHEEP...

...ZZ...

ZZ...

ZZ...

DOZE うと

DOZE うと

101 SHEEP... 102 SHEEP...

DOZE うと

DOZE うと

ONE SHEEP, TWO SHEEP...

OH, GOOD MORNING, JESUS!

SH...

I SLEPT SO WELL!

...AAAAH!

4:27... CHIRP

CHIRP

4:27

THE NEXT MORNING

MM...?

...SHEEP...

YOU DON'T HAVE TO GET UP JUST YET...

15,023 LOST SOULS...

15,022 LOST SHEEP...

SOB

SOB

SOB

SOB

SOB

SOB

J... JESUS ...

AAH! THERE ARE MORE OVER THERE...

NNNGH

NNNGH

HERE I AM COUNTING WHILE THERE ARE SO MANY LOST SHEEP ALL OVER THE WORLD... NNGH ...

BANNER: DANDELION ROOM

JESUS WOULD LATER REFLECT THAT HE COULD HAVE TURNED 50 LOAVES OF BREAD INTO PLATES THAT MORNING.

YOU COULD NEVER COUNT THEM ALL IN ONE NIGHT!

THERE ARE MORE THAN TWO BILLION OF THOSE SHEEP IN THE WORLD!

I DID GET *SOME* SLEEP... I'M REALLY GLAD WE GOT OUT THE DOOR ON TIME.

YEAH, I'M FINE.

Next time, I'll count goats.

ARE YOU OKAY? THERE ARE DARK CIRCLES UNDER YOUR EYES.

I REALLY AM SORRY, JESUS...

SHIRT: DAVID

SHIRT: KASHI BRAND

WOW, IT LOOKS SO COOL AND REFRESHING!

OH! THERE'S ONE NOW!

YEAH. NOW WE CAN SEE THE WATER-FALLS...

NEGATIVE IONS AREN'T ANYTHING TO BE AFRAID OF!

HUH? WHAT?!

HI JOLT!

...WHAT?! NEGATIVE IONS?!

NO KIDDING!

IT'S A SIGHT FOR SORE EYES...

AAHH, SOME-THING ABOUT IT IS JUST SO SOOTHING ...

Aahh

I'M GLAD. THEY DO SAY SOMETHING ABOUT THERE BEING NEGATIVE IONS IN PLACES LIKE THIS.

JUST AS I THOUGHT! THIS IS BAD!

YOU KNOW, I'M NOT SURE, BUT I THINK *YOUR* HAIR IS STARTING TO LOOK MORE...

THEY'RE SUPPOSED TO BE GOOD FOR YOUR CUTICLES ...

I'M SURE YOU KNOW ABOUT IT. I THINK THEY ADD THEM TO HAIR DRYERS OR SOME-THING...?

HEY, WAIT. I THINK THAT GOES BEYOND HEALTHY CUTICLES!

MY HALO ...

WHAT?!

YOUR HAIR WAS ACTUALLY SO SHINY IT LITERALLY CREATED A HALO?!

Come on, hair, stay damaged!!

RUFFLE わしゃ わしゃ RUFFLE

THEN MY HAIR GETS DAMAGED HERE ON EARTH, SO IT GOES AWAY ON ITS OWN!

I ALWAYS HAVE A HALO IN THE HEAVENS BECAUSE THE PLACE IS OVERFLOWING WITH NEGATIVE IONS.

THAT'S OKAY. I MEAN, THIS WATERFALL IS REALLY PRETTY FROM HERE.

We even got up early!!

NO, YOU SHOULD GO! WE'VE ALREADY WALKED THIS FAR...

I'LL WAIT HERE. YOU GO AHEAD AND SEE THE WATER-FALLS, BUDDHA.

ANYWAY, I CAN'T GO ANY CLOSER ...

Sigh

You look like a reggae artist.

AND NOW I CAN GO HOME WITHOUT LOSING THAT SENSE OF WONDER.

IT'S EXCITING TO IMAGINE WHAT KIND OF A PLACE IT IS.

BUDDHA ...

WHAT?! AWW... IN THAT CASE, I'LL PASS, TOO.

THERE IN YOUR BAG... I SEE YOUR WATERFALL CLOTHES, BUDDHA!!

This

TOUCHED

BESIDES, IF YOU GO UP CLOSE TO A WATERFALL SO YOU CAN TOUCH IT, ALL YOU GET IS PAIN.

This

AWWW, WE'RE GOING HOME ALREADY...

BRRRING

IT'S LIKE LEAVING IN THE MIDDLE OF A CURTAIN CALL.

IT DOES KIND OF BREAK YOUR HEART.

YEAH, WHEN YOU'RE FAR FROM HOME, YOU HAVE TO LEAVE WHILE THERE'S STILL ENOUGH DAYLIGHT TO GET BACK.

BAG: SHUZENJI

WHOA, YOU'RE RIGHT! THIS WOULD NEVER HAPPEN IN TOKYO!

WE HAVE THIS CAR ALL TO OUR-SELVES!

...NO, WAIT.

LOOK, BUDDHA. THERE'S SOME INCREDIBLE SCENERY *INSIDE*, TOO!

OKAY! WE'LL USE THIS TRIP HOME TO BURN THE SCENERY INTO OUR MEMORIES.

YEAH... IT KIND OF SEEMS LIKE A WASTE TO STAY IN OUR SEATS THE WHOLE TIME!

I FEEL LIKE OUR LAST GREAT ADVENTURE IS WAITING FOR US!

I'M STARTING TO GET EXCITED!

TEP TEP TEP TEP

GO RIGHT AHEAD!

AND I'LL ...

MIND IF I DASH DOWN THE AISLE?!

MAYBE WE SHOULD WRAP IT UP?! WE DON'T WANT IT BECOMING A HABIT!

UH-OH IS RIGHT!

...UH-OH, I COULD GET USED TO THIS!!

BOING

NAMU-SAN!!

NAH... BUT I BET *EVERY-BODY* WANTS TO TRY THIS.

ANYWAY, YOU DON'T THINK ANYONE IN THE NEXT CAR SAW OUR ANTICS, DO YOU?

AND WE ACTUALLY *DID* IT. IN A SENSE, THAT MAKES US...

YOU'RE RIGHT!

I MEAN, I'D *LIKE* TO TRY HANGING FROM THE STRAP-HANGERS, BUT...

THAT WOULD BE TOO MUCH!!

JIMINY CRICK-ETS!!

HEROES ...

YEAH ...

TWANG

THMP

I BET THEY DIDN'T EVEN HESI-TATE ...

WHIRL WHIRL WHIRL

BUT YOU DON'T THINK THEY'RE GOING TO FOLLOW US ALL THE WAY HOME, DO YOU?

HA HA. WHY NOT? YOU CAN FEEL SAFE WITH YOUR BODY-GUARDS AROUND!

NO, THEY'RE MORE LIKE MY PR TEAM...

THE DEVAS CARE A LOT ABOUT YOU, TOO.

DING DING

HM?

R-REALLY ??

I WAS A LITTLE JEALOUS TO SEE HOW MUCH THEY LOVE YOU.

Whew. I thought you'd call me an angel's boy...

BUT DON'T BE JEALOUS.

OHH! YOU COULD TELL THEM...

HUH? IT'S AN EMAIL FROM MY HEAVEN OFFICE. I WONDER WHAT THEY WANT.

YOU'RE AT SHUZENJI...

Received Mail
From Brahma
Sub Siddhartha-sensei
How did you enjoy your stay at an inn frequented by other literary masters? It was our gift from the Heavens to you. Did it give you any inspiration for "Enlighten Yourself!! Ananda!!"? Here above the clouds, we're eagerly awaiting the next
Menu
Back

IT'S NOT ENOUGH FOR HIM THAT HE MADE ME THE FOUNDER OF A RELIGION.

Hmmm, if I can start with deer...

Don't let this enlightenment go to waste! You must teach a new faith!!

HE'S THE ONE WHO TALKED ME INTO TEACHING IN FRONT OF PEOPLE.

...BRAHMA-SAN...

WHAT? A GIFT?

SO IT WASN'T YOUR LOTTERY LUCK THAT WON US THAT TRIP...

AS A SMALL ACT OF REBELLION, BUDDHA THEN SWITCHED FROM THE LOCAL TRAINS TO THE BULLET TRAIN.

Y-YEAH, BUT IT SAYS THEY'LL PAY OUR TRAVEL EXPENSES!

NOW HE'S TRYING TO BUILD ME UP INTO A MANGA ARTIST!!

I just snapped and put us in first class...
Oh! Oh! Excuse me, I'd like some Koala's March!!
These seats are so soft!! It's so fast!! There's no shaking!!
Ice cream, tea, souvenirs...

SAINT YOUNG MEN

BUT EVEN AFTER HONING HIS MIND TO THE GREATEST EXTENT...

A MIND AND BODY THAT HAVE BEEN HONED TO PERFECTION ARE BEAUTIFUL THINGS.

WHAT? YOU WANT *US* IN YOUR GRANDKID'S SPORTS DAY?

...AND GAINING AN ENLIGHTENED MIND THAT REMAINS UNSHAKEN IN ANY SITUATION, SOMETIMES EVEN BUDDHA...

JESUS' SHIRT: 12 DISCIPLES, BUDDHA'S SHIRT: 10 DISCIPLES

YOU'RE PROBABLY THINKING ABOUT THE *OLD* OLYMPICS, WHEN PEOPLE USED TO DIE.

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT, JESUS?

WHAT?! YOU'RE GONNA DO IT?!

BUT IT'S NOT SAFE!!

WHAT...? NO, BUT...

WOULD YOU BE SO KIND?

MY SON AND HIS WIFE BOTH HAVE SPRAINS...

GLANCE

YES, OF COURSE, IF THERE'S ANY WAY WE CAN HELP...

SPORTS DAY

UH... OKAY...

NO, IT'S MY *YOUNGER* GRANDSON'S SPORTS DAY. THE ONE IN GRADE SCHOOL.

BUT IT WOULDN'T BE THAT BAD, RIGHT, MATSUDA-SAN? IT'S JUST A MIDDLE SCHOOL SPORTS DAY.

YOINK

YOU VOLUNTARILY ENTER YOUR ARCH-NEMESES' LAIR TO HELP YOUR NEIGHBOR...

I TOLD YOU, NOTHING HAPPENS WHEN YOU PUSH THAT!!

THERE YOU ARE, BUTTON ALIEN!!

...HAS PARTS OF HIS BODY THAT CAN-NOT BE TRAINED.

YOUR LOVE IS SO PROFOUND, BUDDHA!!

SAINT YOUNG MEN

Chapter 20

Use Christian Names Sparingly

BUDDHA: FAVORITE MISO SOUP ADD-INS ARE TOFU AND SEAWEED.

IT'S LIKE I'M GOING TO THE LAST BOSS'S CASTLE WITH NOTHING BUT A CYPRESS STICK!

NNGH, IT'S MY ONLY DEFENSE...

By the way, we're on the white team!

I GOT YOU A HEAD-BAND— YOU CAN USE IT FOR ARMOR!

ARE YOU OKAY, BUDDHA ?!

JESUS: WISHES SOMEONE WOULD MAKE POTATO MISO SOUP ONCE IN A WHILE.

IS IT HAND-MADE?

OH? WHAT IS THAT? IT'S SO CUTE.

I GUESS THE *OMAMORI* CHARM MY DISCIPLES GAVE ME DIDN'T WORK...

...WHAT?! WHY COULDN'T YOU JUST LET THEM COME WATCH?!

RAHULA-KUN COULD HAVE SEEN HIS FATHER IN ACTION!

BUT I SAID NO, SO THEY ASKED ME TO TAKE THIS INSTEAD.

REALLY, THEY ALL WANTED TO COME CHEER ME ON...

Sigh

YEAH. IT'S TEN STITCHES BY TEN DISCIPLES.

WHOA. THOSE ARE SOME BIG FEELINGS FOR A LITTLE TCHOTCHKE.

OMAMORI: OH! SPORTS, EH?

THAT'S JUST THE PROBLEM— HIS NAME.

SO YOU NEED TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THESE BONDING OPPORTU-NITIES!

YOU GAVE HIM SUCH A WEIRD NAME...

AND I HEAR THINGS ARE STILL AWKWARD BETWEEN YOU...

IF HE HAD TO COME CHEER ME ON WHILE I WAS DEFEATING OBSTACLE AFTER OBSTACLE ...

Don't... don't let those obstacles beat you"

Good luck against those obstacles, Father"

RAHULA MEANS "OBSTACLE."

(T.N.: SARVAJITA, CENTER: RAHULA, RIGHT: ANANTA)

WHAT ...?

THAT'S WHAT RAHULA-KUN'S NAME MEANS?!

THAT'S THE KIND OF ASCETIC TRAINING THAT JUST GOUGES AT YOUR HEART! EVEN I COULDN'T HANDLE IT!!

...IT WOULD BE BEYOND AWKWARD!

NOT EVEN THE GODS KNOW WHICH IS CRUELER.

I KEEP TELLING YOU HE DOESN'T SLEEP IN THE BATHROOM BECAUSE HE *LIKES* IT!

I THOUGHT IT MEANT, "I LOVE TOILETS"...

MATSUDA: THE LANDLADY AT BUDDHA AND JESUS'S APARTMENT. FAVORITE MISO SOUP ADD-IN IS CLAMS. BUT AT HOME, SHE ALWAYS ADDS FRIED TOFU AND CABBAGE.

RIGHT? AND THEY'RE PLAYING THE THEME FROM "ROCKY."

OOOH, I'M STARTING TO GET NERVOUS!

AND NOW THE ATHLETE PAIRS ARE ENTERING THE FIELD FOR THE PARENT AND GUARDIAN OBSTACLE COURSE!

HM...?

HUH? THAT SECOND OBSTACLE... IT LOOKS SO FAMILIAR!

YEAH, BUT...

NO ONE ELSE HERE HAS PRACTICED FOR THIS.

BUT LET'S JUST HAVE FUN!

YEAH, THAT'S WHAT I SAID!

AND PETER THOUGHT IT WAS HILARIOUS.

Oh...

Nice play on words there.

"I WILL MAKE YOU FISHERS OF MEN"?

HUH? WHAT'S THAT?

I THINK IT'S THE "FISHERS OF MEN" GAME!

I'M HONESTLY SURPRISED URIEL-SAN HASN'T REDUCED PETER-SAN TO A PILE OF CINDERS YET.

Waaah!

Like this? (lol) AH HA HA HA HA HA

HE BURST OUT LAUGHING AND THREW A NET AT ME. THAT'S HOW IT STARTED.

OH, IS THAT WHAT YOU SAID WHEN YOU SCOUTED PETER-SAN?

OH, WHAT'S THIS? YOU'RE AWFULLY YOUNG TO BE RUNNING IN THE PARENT AND GUARDIAN RACE...

NO, OBSTACLE COURSES ARE ALL ABOUT LUCK.

ANYWAY, WE HAVE TO RUN THIS RACE TOGETHER ...

YOU'RE SUCH A GOOD ATHLETE...I'M WORRIED I'M GOING TO SLOW YOU DOWN.

WOW, THIS LADY IS SUPER INTIMIDAT-ING...

WHAT? OH, NO, YOU'RE MUCH YOUNGER THAN WE ARE, MA'AM...

PRESS Z+X+1

ARE YOU BROTHERS? MUST BE NICE TO BE SO YOUNG AND FULL OF ENERGY...

THE YAKUZA MAN!!

OH, SO THEY'RE IN THE BUSINESS?

... KINGPIN JR.?!

I WONDER WHAT HER HUSBAND IS LIKE...

WHIRL

RICH KID SPORTS.

I DO HAVE EXPERIENCE IN SPORTS, BUT MOSTLY JUST ARCHERY AND HORSEBACK RIDING...

AND ...

DAMN RIGHT THEY WILL! AND DON'T BE RUDE!!

THEN THEY'LL BE TOUGH TO BEAT.

UH, I ASSURE YOU, YOU'RE FINE!

I hate Flattery.

COME ON, SHIZUKO. LEAVE THE CIVILIANS ALONE...

YOU ACTUALLY USED THOSE IN THROWING CONTESTS?!

YAH!

ELEPHANT TOSSING, THAT SORT OF THING...

YAKUZA ACQUAINTANCE: IS UNDER THE MISTAKEN IMPRESSION THAT JESUS IS THE HEIR TO A YAKUZA GANG.

FAVORITE MISO SOUP ADD-IN IS NAMEKO MUSHROOM.

WOW, BUT I DIDN'T KNOW YOU HAD A DAUGHTER...

I-I KNOW...!

WE PROMISED AIKO WE'D GET THE GOLD MEDAL!

GRR! HON', WE CAN'T LET THEM BEAT US!

NO, I UNDERSTAND. IT'S JUST A GOLD MEDAL. YOU CAN GIVE HER THAT MUCH.

I DO TRY NOT TO SPOIL HER TOO MUCH, BUT...

OH, THAT'S ALL RIGHT. YOU CAN'T REFUSE A REQUEST FROM YOUR DAUGHTER.

I'M SORRY, ANIKI...

I'D REALLY LIKE TO LET YOU HAVE FIRST PLACE, BUT...

A SILVER MEDAL? THAT'S NOT ASKING FOR MUCH AT ALL...

Sounds like a good kid.

NO, NOT A SILVER MEDAL...

A SILVER ...

I KNEW THIS ONE GIRL WHO WAS SO SPOILED, SHE WANTED...

I-IT'S TRUE...

WITH JOHN-SAN'S HEAD ON IT.

Seri-ously ?!

To decorate with?!

I DANCED REALLY WELL, SO GIVE ME JOHN'S HEAD!

WHIRL

WHIRL

SHE WANTED A SILVER PLATTER.

D...
DO...

RIGHT! AND *MY* FATHER SENT ME TO GOLGOTHA THAT ONE TIME...

Spare the rod and spoil the child, I guess.

RAHULA ASKED ME FOR ALL OF MY WORLDLY POSSESSIONS, AND I TOLD HIM NO.

IT'S JUST NOT A GOOD IDEA TO GIVE KIDS EVERY-THING THEY WANT WHEN THEY'RE YOUNG.

WH-WHAT'S THE MATTER? DON'T CRY!

AIKO... AIKO, I WISH I COULD GIVE YOU A NORMAL LIFE!

HAVE TO LIVE SUCH VIOLENT LIVES?!!

DO GIRLS IN THE MOB...

GET SET!

DON'T WORRY. I'M REALLY NOT THAT GOOD.

GNN

GNN

ANIKI! DON'T HOLD BACK ON OUR ACCOUNT!

ALL RIGHT EVERYONE! ON YOUR MARKS!

AND GROUP FIVE HAS TAKEN OFF!!

BANG

OOHHH! I *KNEW* YOU WERE GOOD AT THIS!

TE-TEP

TE-TEP

USE YOUR HANDS TO STEADY YOURSELF, LIKE THOSE BALANCE TOYS!

IT'S EASIER IF YOU STAND UP, JESUS.

ACK!

THIS WILL REQUIRE A STRONG SENSE OF BALANCE!

THEIR FIRST OBSTACLE IS THE BALANCE BEAM.

WOBBLE

URRRGH! IT'S ALL I CAN DO JUST TO STAY ON THIS THING!

JESUS! ON SECOND THOUGHT, DON'T ACT LIKE A BALANCE TOY!!!

WOW! IT REALLY WORKS! I'M NOT AS WOBBL—

OH!

OKAY, I'LL TRY...

WOBBLE

OOHH!

WOBBLE

BECAUSE THE PEOPLE FROM THE HEAVENS SEEM TO THINK YOU LOOK LIKE SOMETHING ELSE!

SWOO

WHAT? WHY? IT MAKES ME FEEL SO STABLE...

OOOHH! I DID NOT EXPECT THAT! A LONG JUMP ON THE BALANCE BEAM FROM THE WHITE TEAM!

I THINK THAT MIGHT BE AGAINST THE RULES...

NO, WAIT! TAKE ME A LITTLE FARTHER, *THEN* PUT ME DOWN!

WAAH! THAT'S *NOT* WHAT'S HAP-PENING! PUT ME DOWN!!

FLOAT

FLOAT

HEH HEH. LET ME TELL YOU MY SECRET!

USE YOUR HEAD AND ARMS LIKE THIS TO OPEN UP A PATH...

ACK, IT'S NO USE!

I GOT CAUGHT! AND IT HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH JOINTS!!

OKAY, WHAT'S NEXT...

OH! MY SPECIALTY!

GTCH ぎちっ‥

I'M STUCK LIKE GLUE...

BUT HOW?

THE NET CRAWL, HUH?

I THINK I'LL BE FASTER IF I DISLO-CATE MY JOINTS...

MARA? YOU MEAN THE DEMON ...?

RIDES A BIG ELEPHANT, HAS A WEAPON IN EACH OF HIS THOUSAND HANDS? THAT MARA?

JUST THE THOUGHT OF MARA TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THE OBSTACLE COURSE TO COME AFTER ME...

WHOA, YOU *ARE* STUCK! THIS NET WILL NOT LET GO OF YOUR CURLS!

YOU'D GET OUT FASTER IF YOU MADE YOUR HAIR STRAIGHT.

OH, DON'T WORRY, I CAN HANDLE HIM ON MY OWN.

YEAH, THAT WOULD BE BAD. I'M NOT WEARING MY GPS, EITHER!

WHAT ...!

BUT THEN I'D BE *REALLY* VULNERABLE.

HE'S THAT DESPERATE FOR ATTENTION?!

IGNORING HIM IS WHAT HURTS HIM THE MOST.

I SEE. SO IT'S HIS FAULT YOUR LAUGHTER THRESHOLD IS SO HIGH...

BUT HE NEVER MANAGED TO GET A REACTION OUT OF ME, SO LATELY HIS THING IS TRYING TO MAKE ME LAUGH.

AT FIRST, HE TRIED TO TEMPT ME WITH WOMEN OR TO SCARE ME WITH MONSTERS.

OH PLEASE, IT'S FINE.

I'M SORRY. WE'RE PRETTY FAR BEHIND NOW.

THANKS, JESUS...

THERE! I GOT YOU OUT.

COME ON! LET'S GO TO THE NEXT OBSTACLE!

HEY, YOU YOUNG-STERS!!!

TH-THAT'S A GOOD POINT.

THEY ONLY ASKED US TO PARTICIPATE. IT DOESN'T MATTER HOW WELL WE DO.

GRR! YOU MODERN KIDS ARE SO UNMOTI-VATED...

OKAY, HOW ABOUT THIS?!

BUT IT'S TOO LATE FOR US TO...

WH-WHAT?! IT IS?! REALLY ?!

I'LL LET YOU RENEW YOUR LEASE FOR HALF THE PRICE!!

IF YOU CAN GET FIRST PLACE...

WHAT'S WITH ALL THE LOLLY-GAGGING ?!

THE SPORTS DAY VICTORY FOR MY GRANDSON'S TEAM IS RIDING ON THIS!

ZOOM

HON'...

THEY MIGHT JUST LOSE TO US AND OUR 20 YEARS OF MARRIAGE AFTER ALL.

OF COURSE NOT. WHEN RACING TOGETHER, TEAMWORK IS MUCH MORE IMPORTANT THAN YOUTH.

LOOK, HON'! WE'RE MILES AHEAD OF THE COMPETITION!

THOSE YOUNG KIDS WERE NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT.

YOU'VE BEEN MARRIED 20 YEARS...

...?!

HUH? ANIKIS?!

...HAVE OVER A THOUSAND YEARS OF FRIENDSHIP ON OUR SIDE!!

BUT *WE*...

...I CAN PUT IT TOWARD THAT ISHIGAMA STEAM OVEN TOASTER!!

...I COULD GET A BETTER GRAPHICS CARD...!

IF WE RENEW OUR LEASE AT HALF PRICE AND SAVE 20,000 YEN...

THEIR THOUGHTS... THEIR THOUGHTS HAVE BECOME ONE...!

THEY'RE SO IN SYNC, THEY DON'T EVEN HAVE TO SIGNAL TO EACH OTHER!

It'll open up a whole new world of cooking possibilities!!

My adventures will play smoothly no matter how big the party!!

STOMP

STOMP

STOMP

STOMP

STOMP

STOMP

STOMP

STOMP

STOMP

STOMP

STOMP

BUT THEY HAVE TO FIND WHATEVER'S WRITTEN ON THAT PAPER, SO LUCK WILL PLAY A BIG PART IN THIS OBSTACLE!

WHAT DOES THIS "AIZA-WA-SENSEI" MEAN?

GOOD LUCK, WHITE TEAM

SO NEXT...UM, WE HAVE TO PICK UP THIS PAPER...?

THIS IS INCREDIBLE! WHAT A TREMENDOUS COMEBACK FROM THE LAST PLACE PAIR!

NNNGH, THERE ARE TEACHERS ALL OVER THE PLACE!

AIZAWA-SENSEI! ARE YOU HERE?!!

DOES THIS MEAN WE GOT A HARD ONE?!

SO WE HAVE TO FIND AIZAWA-SENSEI?!

WHAT? FIND...?

OH! WHAT A YOUNG FATHER.

UH, YES. I'M YOSHIKAWA.

Ack!

TEP TEP

EXCUSE ME, MADAME. YOU ARE A TEACHER, YES?

WHAT DO WE DO? PEOPLE ARE CATCHING UP!

Hon', it says we need a ball!

Okay! Hand over your ball, kid!

BALL

YOSHIKAWA-SAN... I KNOW THIS IS SUDDEN, AND I'D HATE TO UPSET YOU, BUT...

?!

CLAMP

HA HA, HE MIGHT BE MY TYPE OF—

TH-THEN, I'LL HAVE TO USE MY SECRET WEAPON!

BELIEVE IN ME, AND TAKE THE NAME "AIZAWA!!"

GNN

WILL YOU BELIEVE IN ME?

J... JESUS, DON'T TELL ME...

I WOULD DIE FOR YOU!!

PLEASE ACCEPT MY LOVE!

WH-WHAT?! AIZAWA-SAN, I COULDN'T POSSIBLY...

THIS IS ALL SO SUDDEN!

OH! YOU SWEET TALKER...

You're giving her the wrong idea!!

WELL? WILL YOU DO IT? WILL YOU COME WITH ME TO MY FATHER'S KINGDOM?

I KNEW IT! YOU'RE TRYING TO CONVERT HER...

HEY! BUDDHA, BRING US SOME WATER!

SO YOU CAN BAPTIZE HER WITH THE CHRISTIAN NAME AIZAWA!

OF COURSE! I NEVER TURN ANYONE AWAY!

I BET YOU SAY THAT TO EVERY-ONE...

...SIGH.

CHAAA
CHAAA CHA-CHAA
CHAA

FLAG: WINNER

...THIRD PLACE, EH?

I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU. THAT TEACHER WAS FURIOUS!

I'M ALL BLACK AND BLUE...

BOX: PARTICIPATION AWARD

HERE. EAT THIS. YOU MUST BE HUNGRY.

OUR TRAINING WASN'T ENOUGH!

W-WE DID THE BEST WE COULD!

WINCE

W-WE'RE SORRY, MATSUDA-SAN!!

...!

YOU REALLY *WILL* TAKE ANYONE!

WAAAH! MATSUDA-SAN, I LOVE YOU!!

Hey, wait up, Aniki!

Oh!

Cold Compress

Waah!

GLOMP

EVEN CHARITY MAY SOW THE SEEDS OF DAYTIME DRAMA.

BUT YOU DID WELL. THANK YOU.

I KNOW WHAT I SAID DURING THE RACE. I GOT CARRIED AWAY.

TOUCHED

SMILE

M... MATSUDA-SAN!!

THINGS GOT EVEN MESSIER.

SAINT YOUNG MEN

WHOOOSH

BUDDHA...

THIS IS SOMETHING WE JUST CAN'T SEE EYE-TO-EYE ON.

カリ
RATTLE

カリ
RATTLE

SINCE ANCIENT TIMES, THE WIND HAS BEEN LIKENED TO THE BREATH OF THE GODS.

THIS ATMOSPHERE IS SO COZY.

THE AIR, WARMED SLOWLY BY THE HEAT FROM THE RUG...

A TOASTY KOTA-TSU...

F-FINE... WAIT A MINUTE. I CAN DO THIS...

GNN

WE HAVEN'T OPENED THE WINDOWS IN TWO WHOLE DAYS.

YOU CAN SEE ALL THE DUST IN THE AIR...

THAT'S A RUDE THING TO SAY TO A BUDDHA...

GET BEHIND ME, SATAN!!

AND YOU WANT TO "LET IN SOME FRESH AIR?!" WHAT KIND OF WICKED-NESS IS THAT?!

HISS

EXHALE ハ

INHALE ス

WHAT THE—YOU SHOULDN'T BREATHE IN ALL THAT DUST!

DON'T WORRY...

I DIDN'T SUGGEST IT OUT OF ANY ASCETIC IMPULSES OR ANY-THING!

NO, JESUS, IT JUST MAKES "ALL THINGS" SMELL LIKE THE MILO YOU DRANK THIS MORNING!

EXHALE

THE BREATH OF GOD PURIFIES ALL THINGS!

APPARENTLY MASAHARU FUKUYAMA ALSO HAS THE SAME FEATURE.

SAINT YOUNG MEN

Chapter 21

Deep! Cleaning

BUDDHA: FINALLY NOTICED THAT HIS EYESIGHT IS FAILING. HIS WEIGHT IS STILL INCREASING, THOUGH...

AND I'M ACTUALLY MOVING AROUND, SO...

YOU'RE THE ONE WEARING TOO MANY LAYERS.

Oof.

It makes no sense...

ANYWAY, HOW ARE YOU NOT COLD IN THAT OUTFIT?

SHIRT: DIPANKARA

JESUS: FINALLY NOTICED HE'S GOTTEN TALLER.

THAT'S BECAUSE THE TOILET SEAT IS LIKE SOMETHING FROM THE ARCTIC!

Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani...

WASHROOM

Stop screaming every time you sit on the toilet.

AND I KNOW YOU'RE TRYING TO GO TO THE BATHROOM AS LITTLE AS POSSIBLE.

WHAT ...?

THAT'S PERFECT. WE COULD DO OURS TODAY!

HEY! IT'S DEEP CLEANING SEASON!

IT'S A BEAUTIFUL DAY. GREAT FOR A CLEANING SPREE...

THAT'LL KNOCK THE COLD RIGHT OUT OF YOU!

12

UGH, WITH ALL THIS DUST, I WANT TO OPEN THE WINDOWS AND DO SOME DEEP CLEANING...

WAIT A MINUTE ...

AND NOT ONLY THAT. I'M READY TO GIVE UP ON ON CROSSING THE HARDWOOD FLOORING TO GET THERE.

BUT IT'S ONLY TWO STEPS!

I CANNOT BELIEVE I'M HEARING THIS FROM THE MAN WHO WALKED THE FULL LENGTH OF THE VIA DOLOROSA.

LATELY, EVERY DAY IS THE DAY OF REST FOR YOU.

Don't you go all Pharisee on me!

SORRY. TODAY IS THE DAY OF REST...

AND I'M NOT JUST GOOFING AROUND! I'M DOING A DEEP CLEANING OF MY HARD DRIVE!

EEEEK!!

BUT HAVING MY HANDS ON THE COMPUTER KEEPS THEM WARM...

I have to wash the blanket!

COME ON, TURN OFF THE COMPUTER AND GET OUT FROM UNDER THE KOTATSU!

YOU HAVE DIFFERENT RINGTONES FOR EVERY-ONE, TOO, RIGHT?

OOH, COOL!

You know, changing icons and stuff.

SORTING THE MESSAGES ON MY CELL PHONE GETS ME REALLY FIRED UP.

PERSON-ALLY, I LOVE PUTTING THINGS IN FOLD-ERS.

YOU CAN'T SEE YOUR DESKTOP WALLPAPER THROUGH ALL THE ICONS ON IT.

YEAH, THAT'S AN IMPOR-TANT THING TO CLEAN, TOO.

OH! YOU HAVE A JUNK FOLDER.

I GET A LOT OF SPAM LATELY, TOO.

Heh heh.

CLICK CLICK

I DON'T WANT HIM RUNNING OFF TO BUY THE COSTUME.

I WON'T TELL HIM MY RINGTONE FOR HIM IS FROM PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN.

YEAH... IF I FIND AN INTERESTING PICTURE, IT SEEMS A SHAME TO KEEP IT IN A FOLDER.

AH!

BEEP

Junk

From Mara
Did you change your email address?

From Mara
Sorry, that was uncalled for.

From Mara
Did you gain weight AGAIN?

From Mara
Your kid's got a weird name.

Menu Display Check

SO HOW MANY DO YOU...

MARA: THE DEVIL WHO TEMPTED BUDDHA AS HE MEDITATED UNDER THE BODHI TREE. FINALLY NOTICED HE'S GOT-TEN MORE MOLES.

WHAT DO YOU WANT FROM ME?!

IF I'M NOT CAREFUL, AND I OPEN ONE OF THOSE EMAILS AND CLICK THE LINK...

You know he's a demon, right?!

BWAH

YOU SEND THEM DIRECTLY TO SPAM, AND YOU HAVEN'T EVEN READ *ONE*?!

...WAIT... THESE ARE ALL EMAILS FROM MARA-SAN...

142 of them...

HEE HEE! LET'S OPEN ONE OF THEM...

W... WAIT!

HMM, THE SUBJECT LINES ARE REALLY CLICK-BAITY, TOO...

NO, IT'S ACTUALLY THE BODY OF THE EMAIL THAT HITS ME HARDEST.

CLICK

Most Lovable Buddhas
Latest Nirvana Styles
Kashi Brand 60% OFF
Chat Room For Serious Bodhisattvas
"Are you afraid of entering Nirvana alone?"

Menu Display Check

AND THAT'S WORTH AVOIDING 142 EMAILS?

IT'S NOT EXACTLY GOOD FOR MY HEART...

I'LL GET SENT TO A PAGE THAT SAYS I'VE SIGNED THE CONTRACT TO MY DEATH.

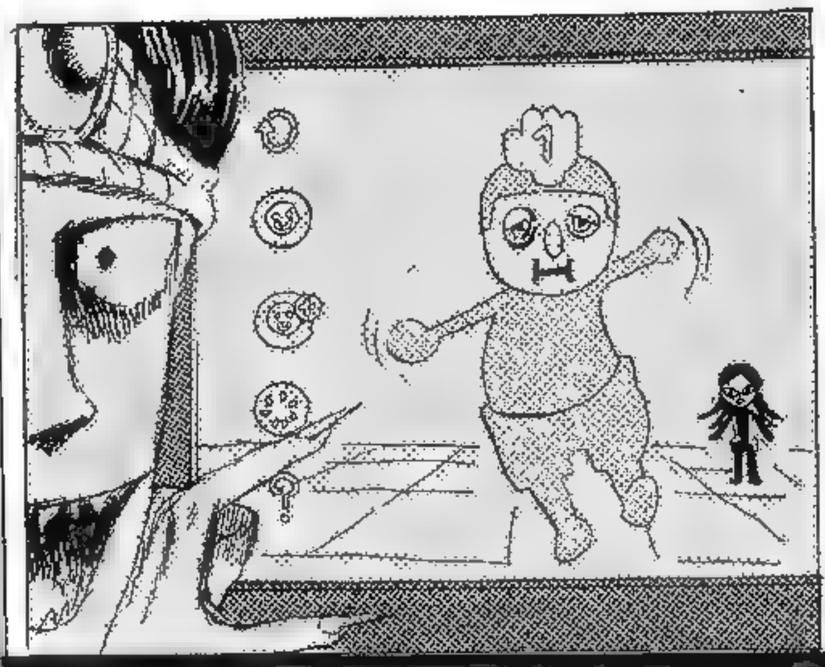
Sigh

Junk Mail (142)

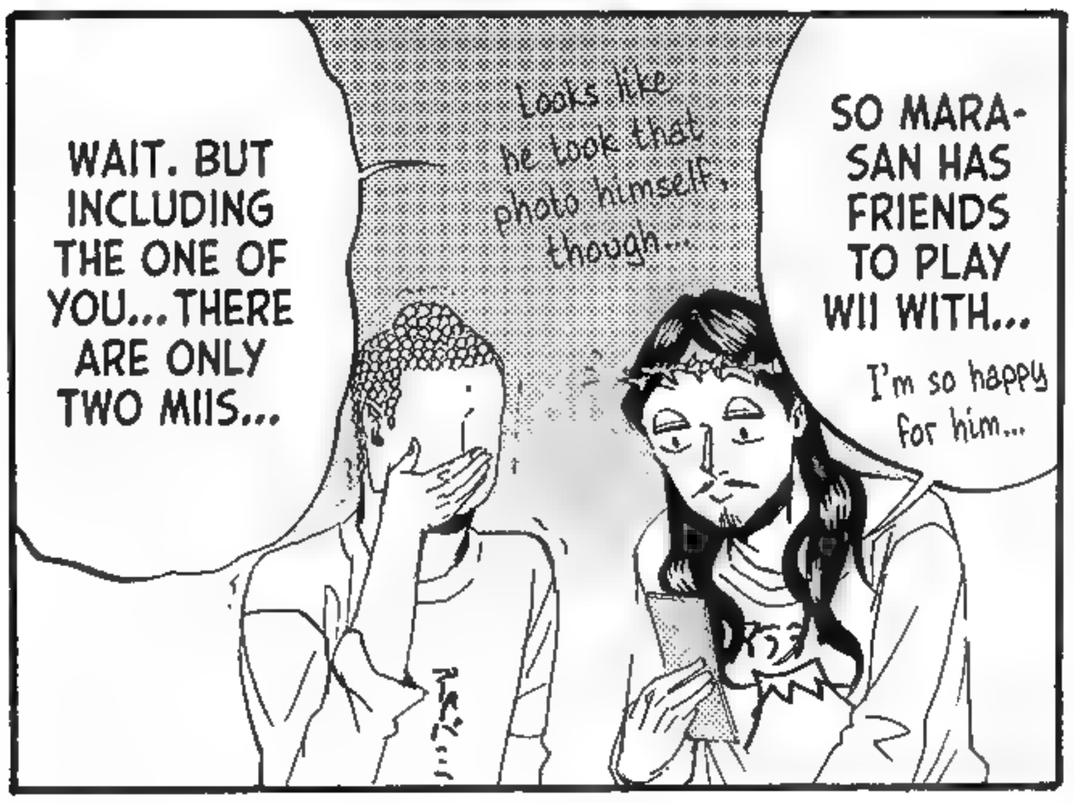
From Mara

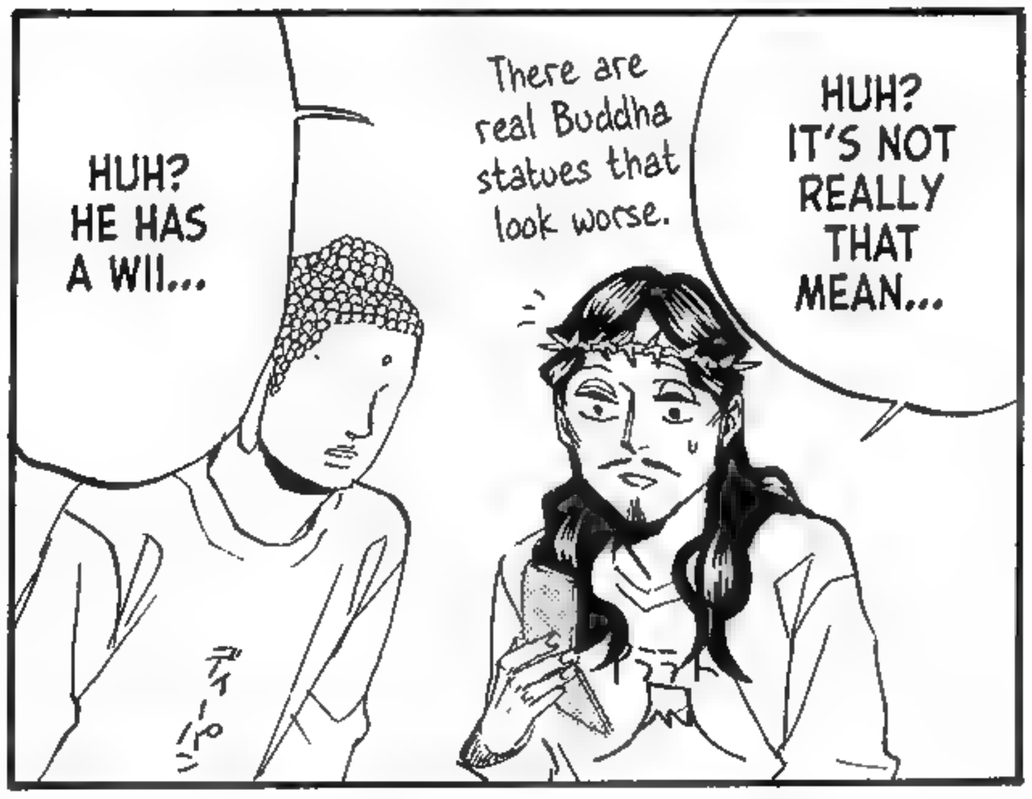
Sub Latest Nirvana Styles

I bought a Wii before you did! I made a Mii of you! Looks just like you!! Moron!!



Menu Reply


WAIT. BUT INCLUDING THE ONE OF YOU... THERE ARE ONLY TWO MIIS...
Looks like he took that photo himself, though...
SO MARA-SAN HAS FRIENDS TO PLAY WII WITH...
I'm so happy for him...



WHIRL
C''3
L*FSH
C''3 WHIRL
BWAH
SEE? IT'S WORSE THAN YOU THINK, SO JUST LEAVE IT BE!
You can make as many Miis of me as you want!!
WHICH MEANS MARA-SAN IS HAVING "WII PARTIES" ALL BY HIMSELF?!

THAT'S THE SPIRIT, JESUS...

WE'LL VENT THIS SADNESS THROUGH CLEANING!

SKFF

スッ

ディーパンカラ

NNGH, I CAN'T. I CAN'T STOP CRYING...

I'D DO ANYTHING TO GET MY MIND OFF IT— EVEN DEEP CLEANING!

SURE!

CAN I JUST USE WATER?

NO.

Ack! But it really is cold!

アララト

WHOOOSH

ガ RATTLE RATTLE ラララ

ディーパンカラ

ガラスクリーナー

SO COULD I ASK YOU TO WIPE THE WINDOWS?

CAN: GLASS CLEANER

IT'S JUST LIKE ZORRO... THE LETTER Z IS SO COOL.

I wanna try it.

Y-YOU THINK SO? I ONLY USED A Z BECAUSE IT'S THE BEST WAY NOT TO WASTE CLEANER...

SHIRT: ARARAT

SH- SHHHH

FIRST, YOU NEED TO TAKE THIS GLASS CLEANER, LIKE SO...

LIKE THE GOSPEL OF LUKE, AND THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW...

SH- SHHH

ガラスクリーナー

YOU KNOW, MY DISCIPLES HAVE PUBLISHED LOTS OF HOLY WRITINGS.

Oohh.

アララト

OOHHH, THAT'S AWESOME! THE MARK OF THE Z!!

...PER-FECTO!

新約聖書

忍

"HOLY TRINITY" *DOES* SOUND LIKE THREE ROBOTS MERGED INTO ONE!!

HOLY

Joshua, ready to launch!

TRINITY!!!

BUT I GUARANTEE EVERYONE WOULD BE WAY MORE INTERESTED IN READING *THESE!*

ESPE-CIALLY JR. HE'S PRETTY HEAVY.

WANT ME TO HELP CARRY STUFF?

SO NOW I WANT TO MOVE THE FURNITURE AND JR. AND EVERYTHING OUT INTO THE HALL...

OOOHH, IT'S ALL SPARKLY.

THE WINDOWS WERE DIRTIER THAN I THOUGHT.

...?! SORRY...

GLARE

DON'T CALL HIM HEAVY TO HIS FACE.

THAT'S THE FACE OF A MAN STANDING UP FOR HIS LITTLE BROTHER ...

THE WORLD LOOKS TWICE AS BEAUTI-FUL NOW.

ARE YOU OKAY? I GUESS THE DUST REALLY PILES UP WHEN SOMETHING STAYS IN ONE PLACE FOR A WHOLE YEAR.

Your sneezes are as peculiar as ever...

VATICAN!

THERE'S A *LOT* OF DUST ON HIS BACK-SIDE...

VA... VA...

BUT WHOA, JR....!!

KANDATA: THE MAIN CHARACTER OF RYUNOSUKE AKUTAGAWA'S "THE SPIDER'S THREAD." A PLUSH TOY THAT BUDDHA GOT IN A CLAW MACHINE.

SO I WANTED TO GET ALL THE IMPORTANT STUFF TO A SAFE PLACE.

OH, BECAUSE I WANT TO DRY OUT THE FLOOR MATS.

BUT WHY DID WE MOVE HIM?

WHEW, I THINK WE CAN LEAVE HIM HERE.

SO THINGS GET REALLY DIRTY BEFORE HE CLEANS UP...

BUT HE'S NOT AS CONSCI-ENTIOUS AS YOU ARE.

Mm-hm, mm-hm.

LAST TIME DAD NEEDED TO CLEAN UP...

YUP. WHEN HE GETS CLEANING, HE CLEANS EVERY-THING.

WOW, SO YOUR DAD GETS REALLY INTO DEEP CLEANING, TOO?

Oh! Kandata's getting evacuated, too?

OOHH! SOUNDS LIKE WE WOULD HIT IT OFF!

OOHH!

THAT WAY WE CAN CLEAN THEM ALL AT ONCE!

NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT, MY DAD SAID THE SAME THING!

...AND WASHED EVERY-THING AWAY IN A GREAT FLOOD.

HE PACKED ALL THE IMPORTANT STUFF INTO AN ARK...

BUT HE DIDN'T REALIZE HOW WIPED OUT HE'D BE AFTER MAKING IT RAIN FOR 40 DAYS.

What? But I'm 600 years old! I'm as senior as it gets!

Do it like this!

AND HE LEFT NOAH-SAN TO BUILD THE ARK ALL BY HIMSELF.

THE NEXT DEEP CLEANING WON'T BE UNTIL THE END OF THE WORLD.

YOU TWO REALLY *ARE* FATHER AND SON!

Said it was too much effort!

SO HE SAID HE WAS NEVER GOING TO DO IT AGAIN.

PULLING UP THE FLOOR MATS TOTALLY ERASES THAT "LIVED-IN" FEEL.

WOW...

BUDDHA LIKES POLISHING THE KITCHEN, SO I SHOULD PROBABLY LEAVE IT ALL TO HIM...

Heh heh heh. But that's impossible... Right...?

It's supposed to clean any stain with nothing but water.

I BOUGHT THIS AMAZING SPONGE THAT WAS MADE IN GERMANY.

OKAY! NEXT I'M GONNA MAKE THE KITCHEN SPARKLE!

O... OOHH!

THIS IS THE CLEANING POWER OF GER-MANY!!

TROMP ドカ

OKAY! I'M GONNA CLEAN EVERY INCH OF IT, ALL THE WAY TO THE BACK!

ドカ TROMP

OH, THE CLOSET! WE DON'T USUALLY CLEAN IN THERE, EITHER.

チョロ GLANCE

チョロ GLANCE

SO WHAT SHOULD I DO?

HUH?

HEY, BUDDHA. I FOUND SOMETHING INTEREST-ING!

WAIT, WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

HUH...?

IT GETS THOSE STUBBORN TEA STAINS OUT LIKE THEY'RE NOTHING ...

COULD THIS SPONGE ERASE EVEN WORLDLY DESIRES?!

ROLL
ROLL
WHAT DO YOU THINK *THIS* STUFF IS?
...MY SILK SCREEN SET!!
THAT'S...
AT FIRST, JUST SEEING YOU CHOOSE ONE OF THE TWO OR THREE SHIRTS I MIXED INTO YOUR WARDROBE WAS ENOUGH TO SATISFY ME...
WINCE ?
AND WHAT'S THIS BOARD? IT LOOKS LIKE A TRAY...
HUH? WHAT'S WRONG?
I FORGOT!! I HID IT IN THE BACK OF THE CLOSET...
...I AWAKENED TO A NEW FORM OF ENTERTAIN-MENT...
I think I'll wear *this* one today...
BUT AS THE SHIRTS I MADE BEGAN TO MULTIPLY IN YOUR DRESSER ...
WHY ARE YOU GOING INTO "EMPTINESS" MODE?

VICTORY IS DETERMINED BY THE NUMBER OF TIMES JESUS WEARS IT!!

THE T-SHIRT HOLY WAR!

SHIRTS: SALOME, VERONICA, BABEL, JESUS, I KNOW NOT THE MAN X3, THE FATHER AND ME AND THE HOLY GHOST, I'M A DONKEY MAN MYSELF

I love this one!

Current ruling tee

JESUS' SHIRT: SAMSON AND DELILAH

WHAT?! I WASN'T SUPPOSED TO TOUCH THEM?! ARE THEY CEREMONIAL OBJECTS?!

JESUS... DON'T SAY ANYTHING. JUST QUIETLY PUT THOSE DOWN ON THE FLOOR.

SHOCK

AND TO KEEP THE JUDGING FAIR AND IMPARTIAL, I CAN NEVER LET HIM KNOW THAT I MADE THEM MYSELF!

GULP

AHA!

LIKE ON AN INFO-MERCIAL ...

...HUH? BUT I THINK I'VE SEEN SOME-THING LIKE THIS BEFORE ...

WHAT? IS IT ESO-TERIC?!

YOU ARE THE ONE PERSON TO WHOM I CAN NEVER REVEAL THAT SECRET.

WHAT DO YOU USE THEM FOR?!

HE— HE'S ON TO ME!!

STARE

IMPOSSI-BLE... IS THIS...?

ROLL ROLL ROLL

ONE OF THOSE BEAUTY FACIAL ROLLERS ?!

...I MEAN...

UH... NO...

JIGGLE

YOU WERE INSECURE ABOUT THAT? ABOUT HOW ROUND YOUR FACE IS?

THUS, THE SECRET OF THE ARTIFACTS REMAINED SAFELY HIDDEN.

YOU DON'T NEED THEM! THAT ROUND FACE OF YOURS IS PACKED WITH AGAPE!!

NOD

...I JUST WANTED TO HAVE THE FACIAL CONTOURS OF TEZUKA'S BUDDHA.

LOOK HOW CLEAN IT IS!

WOW!

NOW WE CAN FEEL GOOD GOING INTO THE NEW YEAR!

WHEW, AND I'M COVERED IN SWEAT!

MOVING AROUND REALLY DOES KEEP THE COLD AWAY!

SO, YOU FINALLY SHOW YOURSELF, O SPAWN OF SATAN !!

?!

SKITTER

SKITTER

SKITTER

SKITTER

SKITTER

OH YEAH, WE EVACUATED KANDATA TO THE CLOSET. BETTER GET HIM OUT.

BEGONE, SATAN!

WHOOSH

?!

HUH? WHAT?

OPEN THE FRONT DOOR!! WE HAVE TO SEND IT OUT-SIDE!!

BUDDHA, GIVE ME THE DUSTER !!

WHOOSH

HM...?

SKITTER

SKITTER

SKITTER

SKITTER

THMP

7

KANDATA... YOU'RE SO...!

HUH? KANDATA FELL DOWN AND...

IT IS SAID THAT THE NAUSICAA PERFOR-MANCE OF BUDDHA AND KANDATA DRIED HIS SWEAT CLEAN AWAY.

...

LET US WALK THIS LIFE TO-GETHER.

WELCOME HOME, LITTLE ONES.

SKITTER

SKITTER

SKITTER SKITTER...

...!!

...?!

YOU'RE RIGHT... *ALL* LIFE IS BEAUTIFUL, EVEN THAT OF AN INSECT.

SOFT

YOU ARE EXACTLY RIGHT.

THE ONE EMAIL OF MARA'S THAT BUDDHA REPLIED TO

SAINT YOUNG MEN

HMMM...

OR SO THEY SAY.

BLESSED ARE THE POOR...

FOR THEIRS IS THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN.

MANGA: ASTRO BOY, DORORO - OSAMU TEZUKA

HUH? WHAT DO YOU MEAN, SELL? WHAT'S GOING ON?

IF I SELL ALL THESE, I THINK I CAN AT LEAST BUY SOME SESAME...

BUT LIVING IN THE KINGDOM BELOW HEAVEN COMES WITH CONSID-ERABLE EXPENSE.

IF YOU HAVE ANYTHING *YOU* COULD SELL, THEN PUT IT IN THE BOX!

Well, I'm not selling Buddha or The Phoenix!!

Isn't that like selling your soul?!

...YOU WOULD SELL *TEZUKA* MANGA TO BOOK OFF?!

MANGA: MESSAGE TO ADOLF, UNDER THE AIR

WELL, WE SPENT SO MUCH MONEY AT THE END OF THE YEAR THAT WE'RE REALLY HURTING FOR CASH RIGHT NOW.

A certain friend's birthday.

Online gaming keyboard

Going all out on the New Year's food.

Matsuda-san's grandkids demanding New Year's money.

SO I'M THINKING OF SELLING A FEW BOOKS TO BOOK OFF...

WHAT? "24"?

BUT I DON'T KNOW ABOUT SELLING IT...

BUT, WE MUST ALL MAKE SACRIFICES FOR THE GREATER GOOD...

ALL RIGHT ...!

OH...

ANY-THING I COULD SELL? HMM...

THIS *DID* USED TO BE A PRETTY HOT ITEM...

SHIRT: FORMERLY SUMEDHA; MANGA: BLACK JACK

I DON'T THINK BOOK OFF WOULD BUY THOSE!

I don't think it's right!!!

NO, I CAN'T!

I REALLY SHOULDN'T SELL INDULGENCES!!

I'd be turning my back on everything Luther-san worked for!!

WHOOSH

INDULGENCE
Worth one ... YOU'RE OKAY!
forgiveness of sin.
(One use per ticket)

SAINT YOUNG MEN

Chapter 22

Noses and Glasses and Buddhas

BUDDHA: FOR THE SAKE OF HIS DIET, HAS LEARNED TO DETECT MINOR CHANGES IN HIS BODY WEIGHT.

UGH, DON'T FREAK OUT! WE'RE NOT IN *THAT* DIRE STRAITS!

I'm selling things so I can *feed* you!

I WOULDN'T SELL *YOU!*

THEN I'LL SELL MYSELF...

APPARENTLY I'M WORTH ABOUT 30 PIECES OF SILVER...!!

ポソリ

JESUS: KNOWS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A GUEST STAR AND A SPECIAL GUEST APPEAR-ANCE.

SUCH SERIOUS EYES...

I'D RATHER DIE.

BESIDES, I WAS TALKING ABOUT YOUR DVD COLLEC-TION...

BUT AT THIS RATE, WE'LL END UP HAVING TO GO HOME ANYWAY...

IF ONLY THERE WAS SOMETHING THAT WOULD GET US SOME MONEY.

刑事ポリ

BUT THEN HE'D GET ON MY CASE ABOUT COMING HOME.

ウスメート

HMMM, MY FAMILY LIVES IN A RICE-PRODUCING REGION, SO IF I TALK TO MY DAD, I CAN GET HIM TO SEND US SOME RICE.

SHIRT: DECAPOLIS

YEAH, WE SCRAPED BY LAST YEAR BECAUSE WE STILL HAD SOME SAVINGS.

BUT I DIDN'T REALIZE WE WERE IN TROUBLE THIS MONTH...

Look at this bank-book...

We'll have to survive on one sesame seed a day...

ウスメート

BUT THIS YEAR, IT'S GOING TO BE MANDATORY FASTING UNTIL PAYDAY.

BAH

HUH?

WHOOOOSH

WHAT THE— BUDDHA, LOOK OUT!

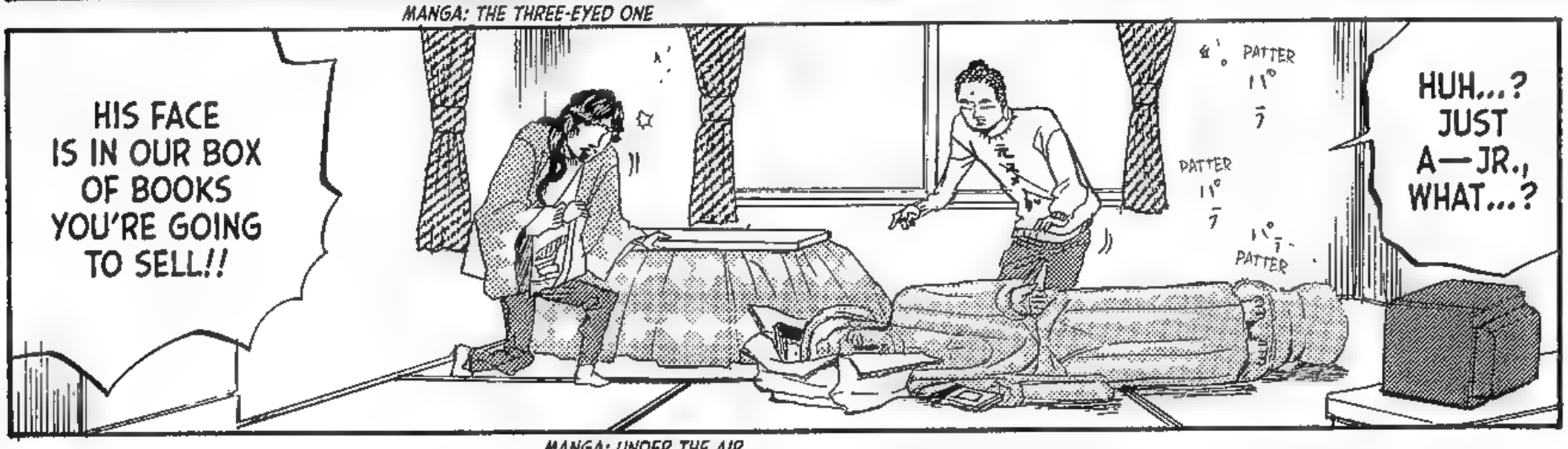
SWAY

BUT WE DON'T HAVE ANYTHING THAT VALUABLE ...

HUH ...?

KER-FWAAAAM

MANGA: THE THREE-EYED ONE



MANGA: UNDER THE AIR

EVEN SO, IT DOES SEEM AS THOUGH HE WOULD FETCH THE HIGHEST PRICE.

OH! IN THAT CASE...

YEAH. MAYBE WE SHOULD GIVE UP ON THIS WHOLE SELLING THINGS IDEA.

元スズ！

IF THIS KEEPS UP, KANDATA MIGHT COME FLYING OUT NEXT...

WHEW, THAT STARTLED ME...

I THINK IT'S FINALLY TIME TO USE *THESE* SCRIPTURES!

はたらこマジで
立川版
特大号

TADAH! LOOK WHAT I HAVE!

FLIER: LET'S WORK, NO FOR REAL! TACHIKAWA SPECIAL ISSUE

I'VE ACTUALLY BEEN WANTING TO TRY THIS FOR A WHILE NOW.

Resume

NAME
Sei Iesu

ADDRESS
Matsuda Heights Apt 201
Akebono, Tachikawa, Tokyo

EDUCATION
My Father's house, learned at church

JOB HISTORY
Worked at Joseph Carpentry
esigned for personal reasons
ame the Savior for
ersonal

OOOH!!

I'M WONDERING WHY YOU TOOK THAT PHOTO AT A JOHNNY DEPP ANGLE, BUT...

HEH HEH HEH. IT'S NOT JUST MAGA-ZINES.

WHAT?! WHEN DID YOU START READING RECRUITER MAGAZINES?

SEE? HERE'S MY RESUME.

YEAH, BELIEVE IT OR NOT, I HAD A STEADY JOB UNTIL I WAS 30.

A prince is basically like a parasite...

ANYWAY, THAT'S SO COOL THAT YOU CAN PUT CARPENTRY IN YOUR JOB HISTORY.

HMMM, I THINK YOU'D HAVE TO APPEAR ON A TALK SHOW LIKE "TOP RUNNER" BEFORE THAT COULD HAPPEN.

"I changed careers at 30. Of course I was scared (ha ha)!" - Jesus

THE MAN who changed his career to Savior

I THINK I COULD EVEN BE IN A RECRUITMENT COMMERCIAL, LIKE, "THE MAN WHO CHANGED HIS CAREER TO SAVIOR"...

PERSONALLY, I ALWAYS WANTED TO WAIT TABLES...

NO, I'M HAVING A HARD TIME DECIDING...

SO DO YOU KNOW WHERE YOU WANT TO APPLY?

FOR EXAMPLE, THIS HIGH-TECH RICE COOKER OF YOURS...

YEAH, I'M TOTALLY YOUR GUY.

I BET YOU COULD WORK AT AN ELECTRONICS STORE, HELPING PEOPLE UNDERSTAND HOW THINGS WORK.

ANYWAY, YOU'RE GOOD AT MAKING ANALO-GIES, RIGHT?

YEAH... AND BEFORE THAT, YOU MIGHT TURN ALL THE PLATES INTO BREAD, TOO.

Whoa, I keep giving it away, but I always have more!!

BUT I GET THE FEELING THAT WHEN I BRING THE FOOD OUT, THE BREAD AND FISH WILL MULTIPLY LIKE CRAZY.

THAT SOUNDS FASCINATING, BUT NOT LIKE THE KIND OF THING SOMEONE HAS THE TIME FOR WHEN THEY NEED A QUICK EXPLANATION!

...CHAPTER 1: "STAND UP, O YE GRAINS OF RICE."

HAVE YOU EVER HAD A JOB INTERVIEW BEFORE?

AN INTERVIEW, HUH...

OKAY! THEN I'LL WORK AT AN ELECTRONICS STORE!

I'LL HAVE TO APPLY FOR AN INTERVIEW RIGHT AWAY...

MAGAZINE: ...WANT TO WORK!

SO YOU KNOW WHAT EMPLOYERS ARE LOOKING FOR?

NOT REALLY ...

Oh, like in front of 109 in Shibuya...

The harbor was my scouting territory.

BUT I SCOUTED ALL MY GUYS.

WELL...IF ANYTHING, I WAS THE RECRUITER ...

OH! YES, PLEASE—

RUMMAGE

I'M STARTING TO WORRY ...

OKAY, LET'S DO A MOCK INTERVIEW!

RUMMAGE

RIGHT... LIKE JAMES-SAN.

I HAD A LOT OF DISCIPLES WITH THE SAME NAME, SO REALLY MY ONLY PRAYER WAS THAT I DIDN'T GET ANY MORE REPEATS...

Big Jim

Little Jim

Little Jim

I had two Simons and two Judases, too...

THEIR THINGS WERE ALL LABELED "BIG JIM" AND "LITTLE JIM"...

HEH HEH. BRAHMA-SAN SENT THEM TO ME FOR SOME REASON.

WOW, BUDDHA, YOU LOOK JUST LIKE A RECRUITER!!

I love those glasses!!

Probably to go with my brand or something...

NOW, LET'S START WITH SOME BASIC QUESTIONS.

CHAK

ALL RIGHT, SEI-SAN, LET'S BEGIN!

WHY DO YOU THINK PEOPLE SUFFER?

TELL ME, *SEI-SAN.*

THAT WOULD BE BECAUSE PEOPLE CANNOT ESCAPE ORIGINAL SIN.

YES, SIR.

WELL ... I'D USUALLY GO MEDITATE, OR TO TALK TO DAD, ON TOP OF MOUNTAINS.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE PLACE TO MEDITATE?

ALSO, AT WHAT AGE DID YOU ACHIEVE ENLIGHT-ENMENT?

YOU CAN'T LEARN ANYTHING ABOUT A PERSON WITHOUT ASKING THIS QUESTION!

I'M 100% SURE THEY WILL!!

UH... DO YOU REALLY THINK THEY'LL ASK THAT?

POW!!

WHAT? YOU'RE KIDDING!

BUT I'M SURE *YOU* COULD GAIN ENLIGHTEN-MENT IN NO TIME!

I'm really sorry.

AND, I'M SORRY, BUT I HAVEN'T ACTUALLY ATTAINED ENLIGHTEN-MENT...

NOW THAT I THINK OF IT, HE ASKED ME THE SAME THING WHEN WE FIRST MET...

YOU CAN JUST DECIDE TO DO IT, LIKE LEARNING A SECOND LANGUAGE OR SOMETHING?!

You should definitely do that!

AND I GUARANTEE ENLIGHTENMENT WILL GIVE YOU THE ADVANTAGE IN YOUR JOB HUNT!

OH. COME TO THINK OF IT...

YOU SOUND *REALLY* PASSIONATE ABOUT THAT...

You know, you're twice as convincing with those glasses on.

There are good kids who haven't been enlightened, like Ananda, but...

IN MY CASE, I'D FEEL A LOT BETTER WITH SOMEONE WHO'S ENLIGHTENED!

WELL, WHEN YOU'RE PICKING THE PEOPLE YOU WORK WITH, YOU WANT TO GO WITH PEOPLE YOU CAN TRUST.

I DON'T ASK FOR MUCH.

BUT WELL... IF I COULD ASK FOR *ANYTHING*...

THEN TELL ME WHAT YOU LOOK FOR IN EMPLOYEES FROM A MANAGERIAL PERSPECTIVE!

WHAT? WELL...LIKE YOU, I'LL TAKE ANYONE WHO'S INTERESTED...

WELL, YEAH, TECHNICALLY...

YOU HAD IT ROUGH MANAGING YOUR FOLLOWERS, TOO, HUH?

I MEAN, I LET SARIPUTRA AND THE OTHERS TAKE CARE OF MOST OF IT, BUT STILL.

OR POACH THE OTHER EMPLOYEES SO HE COULD START HIS OWN BUSINESS ...

I'D WANT SOMEONE WHO WOULDN'T SIC AN ELEPHANT ON HIS EMPLOYER...

OR SCRATCH HIM WITH POISONED FINGER-NAILS...

What is wrong...

...with this disciple?!!

DEVADATTA: THE MAN WHO OUT-RANKS EVEN JUDAS IN NUMBER OF DISAPPOINT-MENTS.

SERIOUSLY, HOW DID YOU MANAGED TO SURVIVE TO 80?!

I REALLY DON'T NEED ANYTHING MORE THAN THAT.

IF I KNOW YOU, YOU COULD GET A HIGH-PAYING BLUE-COLLAR JOB.

YEAH, YOU SHOULD!

SOUNDS KIND OF FUN. I THINK I WANT TO TRY ONE, TOO...

BUT A PART-TIME JOB, HUH?

YEAH. ON NEW YEAR'S DAY, I EASILY COULD MAKE 5,000 YEN AN HOUR.

WAGES

...JUST SITTING ON THE GROUNDS OF A BUDDHIST TEMPLE.

OF COURSE, YOU'D PROBABLY MAKE THE MOST MONEY ...

OH! COMING!

DING DONG ピンポーン!

BUT ACTUALLY, THEY'VE BEEN TRYING TO GET ME TO WORK FOR THEM, AND MY EXCUSE FOR TURNING THEM DOWN IS THAT I'M ON VACATION.

WHAT? ARE THEY AGAINST IT?

Michael told me I can work anywhere as long as I can wear my lift and they don't have rules about hairstyles.

WHAT WOULD THE DEVAS BACK AT THE OFFICE SAY IF I GOT A PART-TIME JOB?

BUT ON SECOND THOUGHT, I CAN'T ...

NO, IT'S NOT THAT THEY'RE *AGAINST* IT...

KA-CHAK カチャ

HUH?

JESUS, WAIT! DON'T OPEN ...!

WHOA, THOSE EYE-BROWS!

WINCE

...

Something from Amazon?

WHAT IS IT? A PACK-AGE?

I HAVE A VERY BAD FEELING ABOUT THIS...

I AM...

BAM

...BRAHMA, FROM THE HEAVENLY OFFICE!

GNN

IT'S A PLEASURE TO SEE YOU AGAIN.

WHACK

HELLO.

IS SIDDHARTHA-SENSEI HOME?

HUH? BRAHMA-SAN?!

OH, YOU'RE RIGHT!!

THERE'S NO WAY THIS IS A COINCI-DENCE!

YOU WERE LISTENING IN OUTSIDE THE DOOR, WEREN'T YOU?!

BUT OF COURSE.

I'm calling Uriel!!

WE DON'T NEED ANY WATER PURIFI-ERS!!!

I'M NOT GOING ANY-WHERE!

UNTIL WE RECEIVE THE MANUSCRIPT FOR "ENLIGHTEN YOURSELF!! ANANDA!!" CHAPTER TWO...

IT'S OKAY! HE'S NOT A PUSHY SALESMAN, JESUS! CALM DOWN!!

I PUBLISH A FREE MAGAZINE UP IN THE HEAVENS...

OH, I HAVEN'T EXPLAINED MYSELF.

YES... I'VE BEEN TELLING THEM NO FOR ABOUT SIX MONTHS...

AAAAHH! IS *THAT* THE WORK THEY WANT YOU TO DO?!

BRAHMA: GUARDIAN DEITY OF BUDDHIST LAW. CONVINCED BUDDHA TO SHARE HIS TEACHINGS WITH THE WORLD AFTER BUDDHA GAINED ENLIGHT-ENMENT. KNOWS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A SEAL AND A SEA LION.

OH, I'VE HEARD OF IT! I ALWAYS SEE IT AT TRANSIT TERMINALS!

Information to Stimulate Saints

HACHIBUEKU

R2000 yo

Got enlighten-ment?

Aramillennium's Favorites

60 Kasaya Robes

Kashi Brand

Fondly Remembered Ascetic Training Stories

Yup, Been There

Recommended Ascetic Spots

IT'S AN INFORMATION MAGAZINE FOR SAINTS, CALLED R2000...

IF I GIVE YOU AN INCH, YOU'LL TAKE A MILE! YOU'LL NEVER LET ME STOP!

NO!

OOHH!

How cool would that be!

IF WE COULD PRINT SENSEI'S GAG MANGA IN IT, WE'D BE UN-STOPPABLE.

YOU DISTRIBUTE THEM ON THE LANDING TO JACOB'S LADDER, TOO, RIGHT?

Of course, it's an escalator now.

I know that. So...?

...SEVERAL BRAHMIN PRIESTS VISITED THE PALACE...

AND ONE OF THEM...

I JUST CAN'T AGREE TO DO IT LIKE IT'S NOTHING ...

O SID-DHARTHA. WHEN YOU WERE BORN...

YES, THANK YOU FOR ASKING. IT'S VERY WELL RECEIVED AMONG COMMUTING ANGELS.

WOULD YOU PLEASE NOT FABRICATE LEGENDS THAT NEVER HAPPENED ?!

Because when this child is grown, I will have passed on— I'll never read his manga...

You thought bringing Tezuka-sensei into this would make me happy!!

Why do you weep so?

AND HE PROPHESIED, "THIS CHILD WILL BE A KING OF THE MANGA WORLD!!"

WORE A BERET, WITH GLASSES PERCHED ATOP A LARGE NOSE...

YOU'RE NOT HELPING YOUR CASE BY BEING SO PUSHY.

It was a white elephant!

YOUR HONORABLE MOTHER SAYS THAT SHE WAS IMPREGNATED WITH YOU AFTER SHE DREAMED THAT A G-PEN ENTERED HER RIGHT SIDE...

I-I DON'T CARE!

AND THE CONTENTS OF THAT PREVIEW ...

HEH

I'VE ACTUALLY ALREADY PRINTED THE PREVIEW...

...IS THAT SO? WHAT A SHAME.

...

NOW, NOW, BRAHMA-SAN. HE'S JUST BEING STUBBORN.

I *AM* BEING STUBBORN. NOTHING YOU SAY WILL GET ME TO DRAW MANGA!

...ARE HYPING THINGS UP TO AN UNREASONABLE DEGREE!

Enlighten Yourself!! Ananda!! Chapter 2
A shocking new character appears!!!

THE LEGENDARY Side-Splitting Hilarity!!!

Interview: The man who inspired ...ell, Ananda-san

...AS YOU CAN SEE HERE...

"CLICK" ?!

CLICK カ シャ

元スメーダ

I BELIEVE THAT DRAWING UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES ...

WOULD BE A NEW LEVEL OF MENTAL ASCETICISM.

IT HELPS THAT HE PAID FOR IT UP FRONT...

THAT BRAHMA-SAN REALLY KNOWS WHAT HE'S DOING.

I see... So these glasses were part of a set...

I'VE NEVER ACTUALLY HEARD THE ASCETIC SWITCH FLIP ON BEFORE.

元

Heh heh... The more I look at it, the tougher it gets...

A humble offering

AND NOW WE DON'T HAVE TO SELL YOUR VALUABLE MANGA OR ANY INDULGENCES.

BUT I AM CONCERNED THAT HE ONLY GAVE ME 10,000 YEN FOR ONE MANUSCRIPT. I DIDN'T EXPECT HIM TO BE THAT CHEAP.

OH, DEAR...

ANYWAY, DID YOU MAKE THESE INDULGENCES BY HAND?

YEAH, THAT SHOULD BE FINE.

OH, BUT I THINK I WILL GET A JOB...

LIKE THE SHOULDER MASSAGE TICKETS KIDS HAND OUT ON "RESPECT FOR THE AGED DAY."

INDULGENCE
Worth one forgiveness of sin
(One use per ticket)

Unlike the ones the Church handed out, they actually work!

YEAH. I HANDED THEM OUT IN BOOKLETS OF FIVE ON THANKS-GIVING.

IT TOOK ALL FIVE OF THEM TOGETHER.

...?!!

...YOU FORGAVE THAT BETRAYAL WITH ONE PIECE OF PAPER AND A STAMP YOU MADE FROM AN ERASER?

TELL ME YOU DIDN'T.

Ha ha ha...

THE ONLY ONE WHO USED ALL OF HIS...

ACTU-ALLY, NO.

BUT I BET SOMEONE LIKE PETER-SAN WOULD USE THEM ALL UP.

THE AGAPE OF THE SON OF GOD: PRICELESS.

WHAT? NO, OF COURSE NOT!!

WAS JUDAS!

He really isn't leaving...
Y... yeah...
STARE
Jesus, put screentone here please.

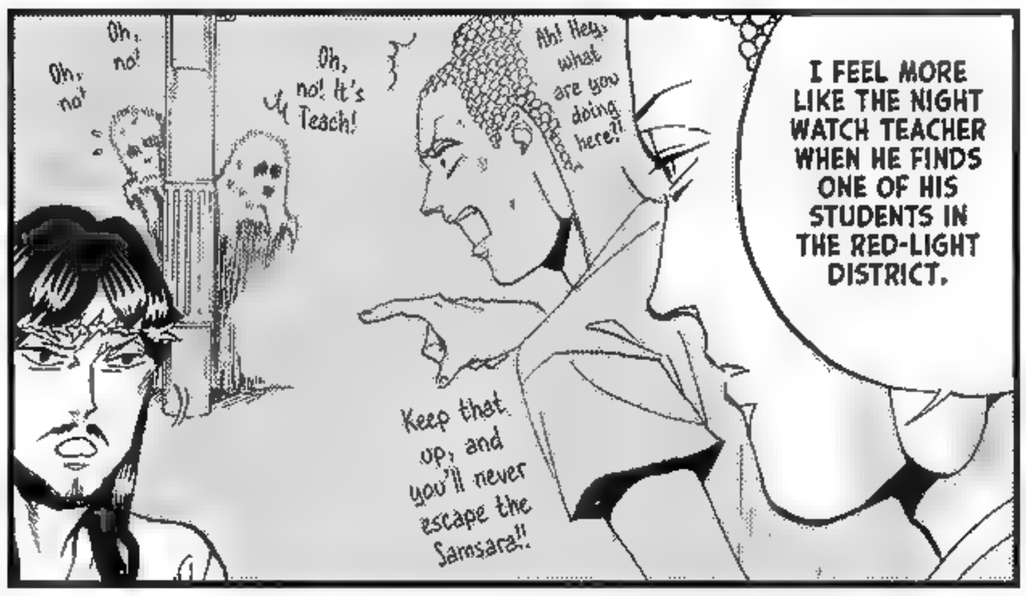
ガズ

X3

TRANSLATION NOTES

Achieving the non-self, page 1

The concept of non-self, or *anatman*, is one of the three Right Understandings of Buddhism. This doctrine states that there is no permanent, underlying soul in living beings, including human beings. The ability to accept that there is no "self" is a step on the way to enlightenment.


Oh, no!
Oh, no!
Oh, no! It's Teach!
Ah! Hey, what are you doing here?!
I FEEL MORE LIKE THE NIGHT WATCH TEACHER WHEN HE FINDS ONE OF HIS STUDENTS IN THE RED-LIGHT DISTRICT.
Keep that up, and you'll never escape the Samsara!!

Night Watch Teacher, page 5

Night Watch Teacher is a nickname given by the media to Osamu Mizutani, who was a teacher in Yokohama. He began patrolling the seedier side of town to find delinquent youths, help sort out their problems, and rehabilitate them.

Samsara, page 5

In Buddhism, the Wheel of Existence, or Samsara, is the cycle of life, death, and rebirth. This cycle is full of pain and suffering, and the goal of Buddhism is to find a way outside of the cycle in order to escape this pain and suffering.

The Carpenter's Son, page 6

Jesus Christ was raised by Mary and her husband Joseph, who was a carpenter by trade.

Jesus walks on water, page 8

The Bible tells of a time when Jesus retired to the mountains to pray, while His disciples went on ahead in a boat to their next destination. Sudden storms were not uncommon on the Sea of Galilee, and one arose at this particular time. As the sailors struggled to keep the boat from sinking, Jesus came to them, walking on the water, and when He joined them on the boat, the winds ceased and they quickly arrived on the other shore.

You're so young, page 9

Siddhartha Gautama was born sometime between the sixth and fourth centuries BCE (Before Common Era), and died at the age of 80. Jesus Christ was born around 1CE (Common Era) and was crucified at age 33. In regards to earthly life, this would make Buddha older both in terms of when he was born and how long he lived.

Jesus's trial, page 10

Before He was crucified, Jesus was put on trial by men in power who were determined to find something to accuse Him of in order to execute Him. After finding Him guilty through false accusations in their own trial, they took him to the Roman prefect Pontius Pilate, as the Jews were not allowed to sentence anyone to death without Roman approval. At this trial before Pilate, Jesus remained silent in the face of these repeated accusations, speaking only when questioned by Pilate himself. Jesus further remained silent when sent to be judged by Herod, the governor of Galilee.

Observation diary, page 12

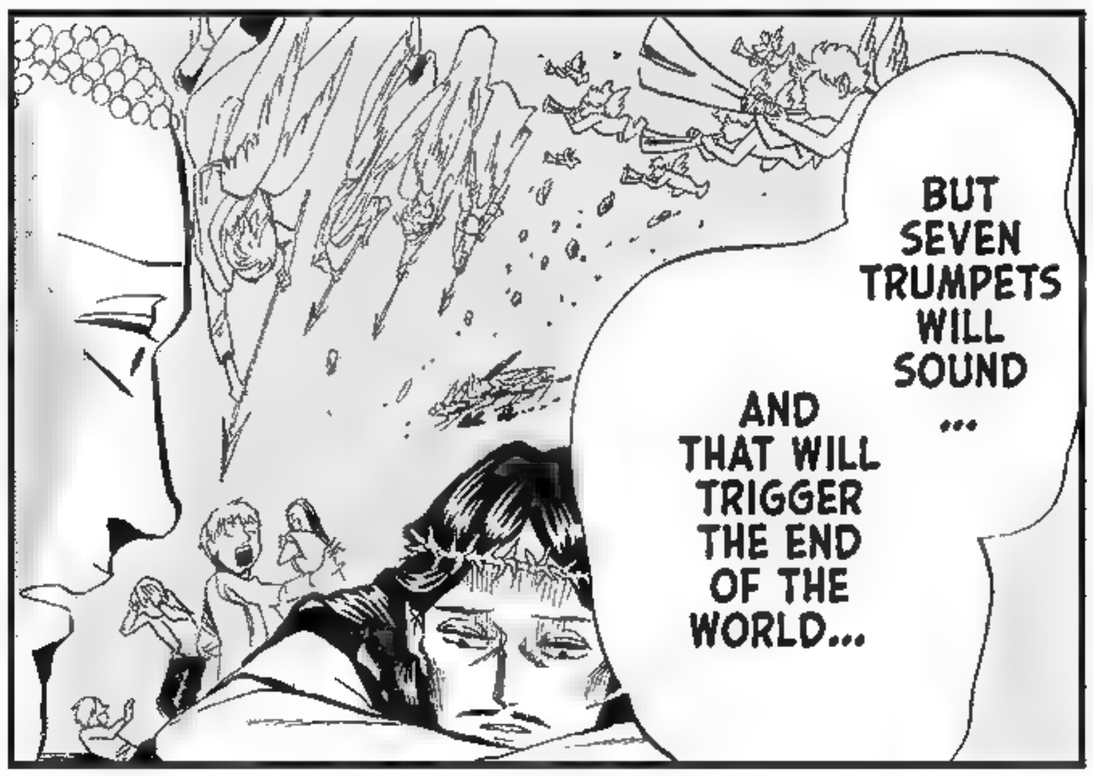
Because the school year starts in April in Japan, summer vacation falls in the middle of the year, and is one month long. Students are usually given big projects to complete with all their free time, including long-term assignments such as observing plants over four weeks.

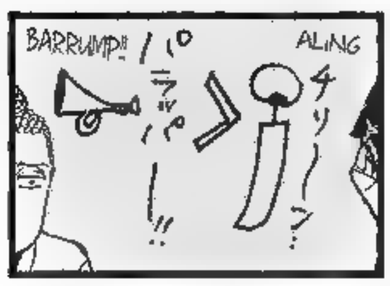
Of such is the kingdom of heaven, page 12

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus teaches His disciples that instead of being kind only to their friends, they should love their enemies, as well. And while this applies to what Jesus is telling Buddha in this instance, it doesn't quite connect to the next quote, "Of such is the kingdom of heaven." This is something Jesus said when people brought their children to be blessed by Him, and the disciples told them not to bother Jesus. When He saw it, He told them not to forbid the children, because "of such is the kingdom of heaven." He then blessed the children before going on His way.

Seven trumpets, page 14

This is a reference to the Book of Revelation, found at the end of the New Testament, which contains prophecies about the end of the world. Each of the trumpets will be sounded in turn, to signal the beginning of a different stage of the Apocalypse. The word "trumpet" is a translation from Greek, where the word specifically refers to a salpinx—a long, straight trumpet which was often used in ancient times as a signal, to get the attention of a lot of people at once, presumably because the sound would carry much better than that of a human voice.





Wind chimes, page 14

The most common wind chime in Japan consists of a glass bell with a cylindrical clapper that has a piece of paper hanging from it to catch the wind and make it move. The sound of these chimes is believed to be refreshing enough to alleviate the agony of a hot, humid summer.

Calpis, page 15

Calpis is a cultured milk drink designed to improve digestion. It is usually sold as a concentrate, and diluted with water or milk before consumption.

Blue lips, page 15

Technically, Buddha explained that no sea angel looks "that pale," but sea angels are transparent and therefore are as pale as it gets. Since Buddha used a word that indicates pale in a blue direction, the translators opted to have him describe another phenomenon that occurs when people are very cold, which is that their lips take on a bluish tint.

Three years to warm a cold stone, page 16

This is a Japanese proverb to encourage perseverance.

30 pieces of silver, page 21

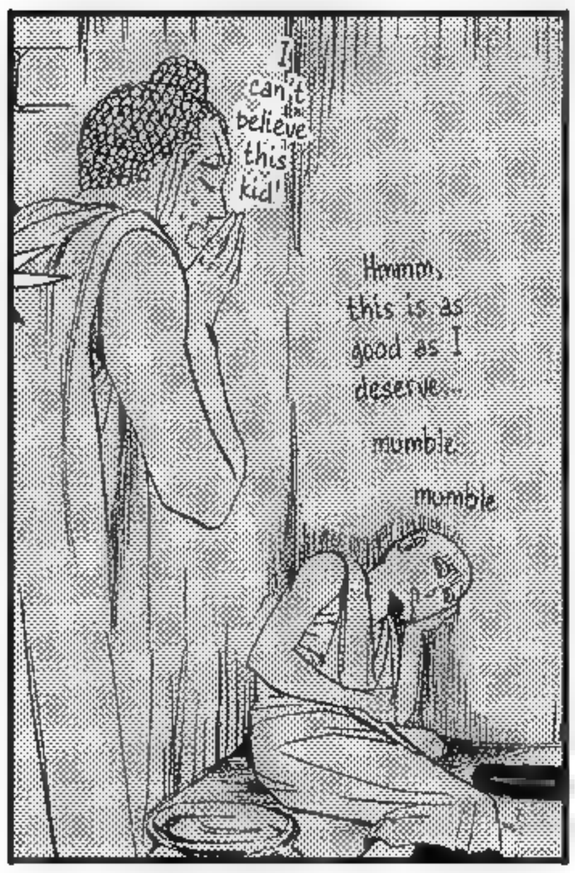
30 pieces of silver is the amount of money Jesus's enemies paid to Judas Iscariot for betraying Him. It was the going rate for slaves in that part of the world at that time, as well as the amount foretold in the Old Testament Book of Zechariah as the blood-money paid for betraying the Lord.

Kushinagar, page 22

Kushinagar is a village in India, where Buddha attained parinirvana, a word that means that, since he had attained enlightenment in life, he was released from the Wheel of Existence (Samsara) upon his physical death.

Overturning furniture, page 24

In Jesus's day, Jews went to the temple to offer animal sacrifice to the Lord in accordance with the Law of Moses. Enterprising people took advantage of this practice and went to the temple to sell ceremonially fit animals to those wishing to worship. As the temple had become more of a bustling marketplace than a place of reverence, one thing Jesus did early in His ministry was to chase all these capitalists out. The first time, He went so far as to create an impromptu whip. He liberated all the animals and overturned the tables where money was exchanged (only temple coin could be used to pay alms at the temple) and said, "Make not my father's house an house of merchandise." It was the second clearing of the temple, toward the end of His ministry, when Jesus reminded the barterers that the temple is a house of prayer.



Rahula sleeping in the bathroom, page 31

There is a famous story from when Buddha's son was a novice monk in which Buddha made a rule that no novice could sleep in the same room as a fully ordained monk. When he retired to bed and found nowhere to sleep that didn't already house ordained monks, Rahula sneaked into an outhouse and slept there. When Buddha realized that this was the sort of treatment novices were receiving, the rule was adjusted.

Obon, page 32

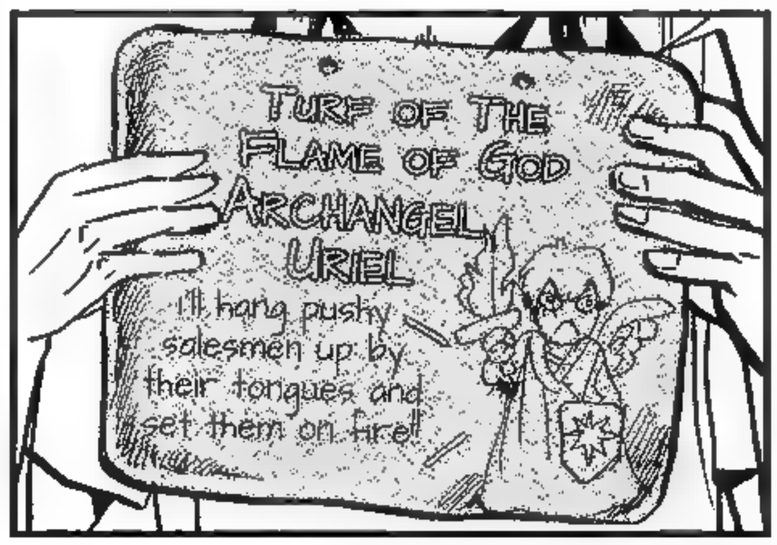
Obon is a festival usually held in August. It is believed that the spirit world is closer to the world of the living during this festival, and that ancestors come back to the mortal world to visit their families.

Just like a stable, page 35

Jesus was born at a time when all the Jews were returning to their ancestral homes to participate in a census for their Roman rulers. Joseph took his wife Mary to his own ancestral town of Bethlehem, where he would have found lodging with relatives, either close or distant. The homes of his relatives would have had a guest room, or kataluma (which is translated to "inn" in familiar versions the Bible), in addition to a family room which also had a space for the animals to come in during the night. Because so many people were coming in from out of town, all the guest rooms were full. Whether Joseph and Mary stayed in the family room with their host family and their animals or whether they stayed in a stable is unclear, but we do know that when the Baby Jesus was born, the only bed available for the newborn Child was a manger—a feeding trough for the animals.

Uriel, page 36

According to the apocryphal text The Apocalypse of Peter, Uriel is the archangel who will supervise the punishment of sinners in hell. One of these punishments is that blasphemers will be hanged by their tongues and set on fire.

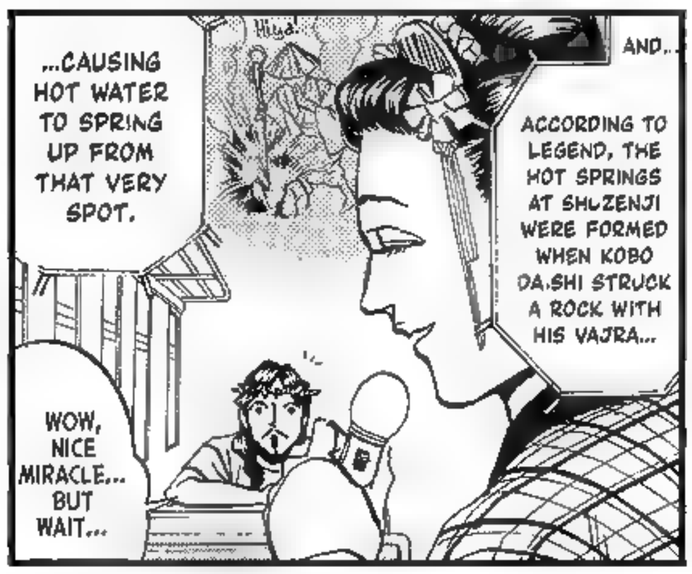


Yasunari Kawabata, page 40

Yasunari Kawabata was the first Japanese author to win the Nobel Prize for literature in 1968. One of his more famous stories is "*Izu no Odoriko*," or "The Dancing Girl of Izu," which is represented in the photo op standee. Jesus and Buddha are visiting Shuzenji, which is on the Izu Peninsula where the story takes place, and the Odoriko Limited Express is named for the dancing girl.

Passport to Paradise, page 40

The Japanese title of this chapter is *Ii Tabi, Gokuraku Kibun,* meaning "good travels, feels like paradise." This is a play on *Ii Tabi, Yume Kibun* (good travels, feels like a dream), the title of a Japanese travel show.


...CAUSING HOT WATER TO SPRING UP FROM THAT VERY SPOT.
Hiyo!
AND..
ACCORDING TO LEGEND, THE HOT SPRINGS AT SHUZENJI WERE FORMED WHEN KOBO DAISHI STRUCK A ROCK WITH HIS VAJRA...
WOW, NICE MIRACLE... BUT WAIT...

Kobo Daishi, page 42

Kobo Daishi, also known as Kukai, is one of the most prominent Buddhist figures of Japan, and the founder of the Esoteric Shingon sect of Buddhism. The vajra he used to strike the rock and form the hot spring is a weapon and ritual object used in Buddhism to symbolize the indestructibility of diamond and the irresistible force of thunder.

The most hardcore hot springs buff, page 43

To be specific, Jesus names *Edokko,* or Tokyoites. Natives of Tokyo have a reputation for liking their baths extra hot.

Overturned Bucket, page 43

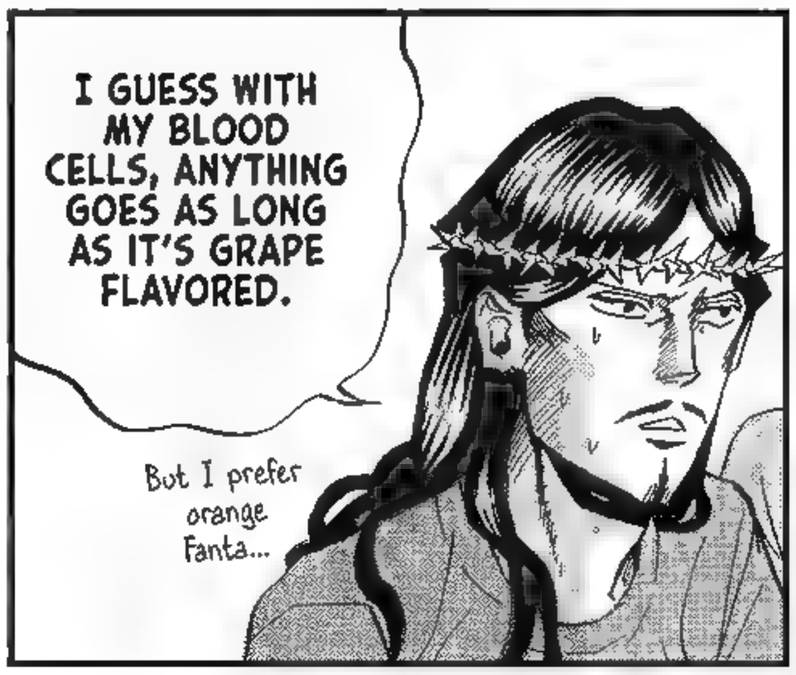
This is a reference to a lecture Buddha gave to his son Rahula, using a bucket and water as an object lesson to teach him not to lie or harm others, or his training will be overturned and empty like a bucket that once held water.

A donkey man, page 43

Before Jesus was born, His mother Mary rode to Bethlehem on a donkey, as opposed to a horse or a camel. Soon before He was crucified, He made His triumphal entry into Jerusalem while riding a donkey, in accordance with prophecy.

Anything goes, page 44

Most Christian churches regularly participate in a rite known variously as the Eucharist, the Holy Communion, the Lord's Supper, or the Sacrament. While the specifics vary according to denomination, the general practice is to eat a piece of bread or wafer and drink a bit of wine, in remembrance of the Savior and His sacrifice, and to show their commitment to make Him and His teachings a part of themselves. The bread is His flesh, and the wine is His blood—some denominations believe it literally becomes these things, while others believe His flesh and blood are present "in, with, and under" the bread and wine. Still other denominations think of the bread and wine as symbols to commemorate the flesh and blood of Christ. Not all congregations use wine—many use grape juice, or even simply water, believing that the important thing is not the liquid itself, but that it be blessed with the right authority and partaken of worthily.



Yukata, page 46

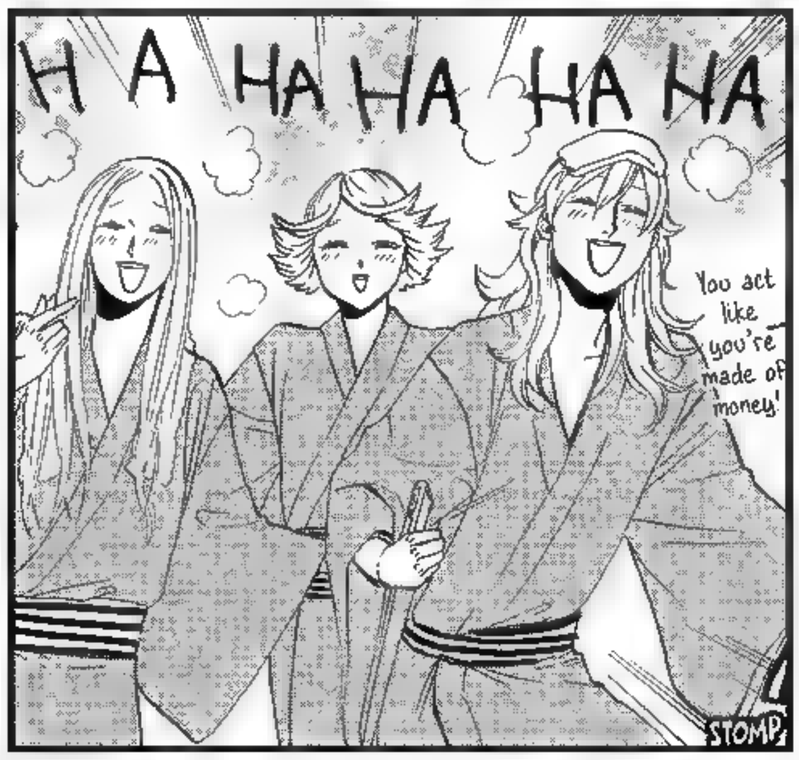
Traditional Japanese inns (and some hotels) provide yukata for their guests. These hotel yukata are a kind of lightweight, cotton kimono that is more like regular clothes than a bathrobe, but still used more as loungewear. Nevertheless, it's a fun tourist thing to do to explore a hot springs resort town while wearing the yukata provided by one's lodgings.

Thousand Armed Kannon, page 48

Kannon, also known as Guan Yin or Avalokiteshvara, is the Buddhist personification of perfect compassion. Despite her determination to save every soul, she fell into despair when she saw how many still needed help escaping hell, and she literally fell to pieces. Amitabha came to her rescue and gave her one thousand arms with which to reach out to those in need, and there are many statues of her depicting these myriad arms.

Let no fruit grow, page 51

This line closely resembles one spoken by Jesus on His way to the temple in Jerusalem. He came upon a fig tree that was covered in leaves, and because fig trees put forth leaves and fruit at the same time, He reasonably took the leaves as a sign that He could find something to eat on the branches. When the fig tree proved to be all form and no substance (there was no fruit), He cursed it to an eternity of barrenness for its hypocrisy, and before long the tree withered away and died. Incidentally, wasabi is actually a root vegetable and does not grow on trees.



All four archangels, page 53

Archangels are the highest ranking angels in the service of God. The number of archangels varies according to religion, but for the purposes of this story, there are four.

Johnny's idols, page 57

Johnny's is a collection of male pop star idols represented by Johnny & Associates. They manage many different boy bands, including the famous Arashi.

The word idol, page 58

Technically, the word idol comes from a Greek word meaning "image" or "form," and refers to pictures, statues, etc. that were created to represent—or to be—an object of worship. Worshiping idols instead of the true God is frowned on in Abrahamic religions, including Christianity.

Sei Iesu from Tachikawa, page 59

The translators would like to apologize for the unusual name-spelling used here. As mentioned briefly in the notes for volume one, in Japan, Jesus's name is pronounced Iesu. This is because Christianity was first brought to Japan by the Portuguese in 1549, when they were pronouncing the J like a Y, and did not use the final S. As a result, the Japanese pronunciation of the name sounds exactly like the Japanese pronunciation of the English word "yes." To maintain familiarity, the translators have been using the English spelling of Jesus's name, but in this one instance they felt it was necessary to simply Romanize the Japanese.

Chage and Aska, page 60

As the reader may safely assume, Chage and Aska are a Japanese pop duo. Their first hit was "*Banri no Kara* (Thousand-Mile River)" in 1980, and "Say Yes" spent 13 consecutive weeks at the top of the charts when it came out in 1991.

Your old standby, page 60

This is a reference to the Bible verse, Matthew 4:17, which states: "From that time Jesus began to preach, and to say, Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

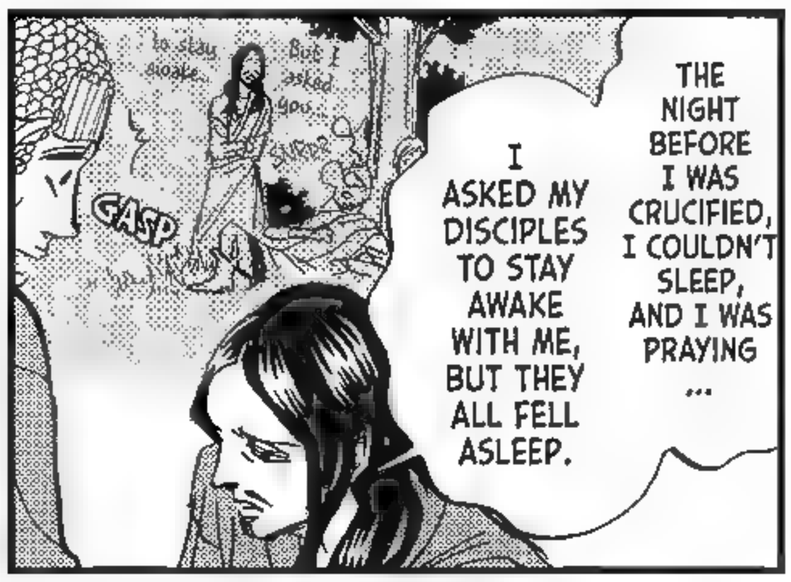
Preaching to deer, page 61

Shortly after becoming enlightened, Buddha was hesitant to preach because words are an imperfect means of conveying such truths as he had to impart. After some persuasion, he went to the Deer Park at Sarnath, where he taught his first sermon to the same men who had practiced asceticism with him before his enlightenment. They first mocked him, but after they heard his teachings, they became his disciples. In the Osamu Tezuka telling of the tale, after their first encounter in the park, the ascetics walked away and Buddha taught the deer instead until the men returned to hear him.

YOU USED TO IMAGINE YOUR AUDIENCE AS DEER...
OH, YEAH, YOU DID TELL ME...
But I've kind of attained enlightenment, so may I tell you about it?
Excuse me, I don't want to bother you if you don't have the time...
YEAH, BUT I STILL WARMED UP BY PREACHING TO THE DEER FIRST!
OH

Imagine an audience as deer, page 61

The original Japanese text had Jesus describe a Japanese superstition for overcoming stage fright, which is to mime writing the Chinese character for "person" on your hand and then put your hand to your mouth to "swallow" the writing, but in Buddha's case, he would write the character for "deer." So as not to slow the reader down, the translators replaced it with an American trick for overcoming stage fright, which is to imagine the audience as something less intimidating, usually the same people but dressed in only their underwear, but in this case, again, the image is deer.


to stay awake
But I asked you
GASP
I ASKED MY DISCIPLES TO STAY AWAKE WITH ME, BUT THEY ALL FELL ASLEEP.
THE NIGHT BEFORE I WAS CRUCIFIED, I COULDN'T SLEEP, AND I WAS PRAYING ...

The night before the crucifixion, page 64

Before Jesus was arrested, He went with His apostles to the Garden of Gethsemane to pray. Leaving most of them at the entrance to the garden, He took Peter, James, and John with Him and told them to wait at a particular spot and watch with Him—in other words, He asked them to stay awake. He then went a little farther away, where He suffered for the sins of all humankind—pain so great that "his sweat was as it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground" (Luke 22:44). Three times He returned to His apostles and found them asleep, because "the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak" (Matthew 26:41).

Kashi Brand, page 67

The Kingdom of Kashi is an ancient Indian kingdom known for being very wealthy. It was in this kingdom that Buddha began preaching.

David, page 67

David was chosen by God to be the king of Israel, and Jesus Christ was descended from him through Mary.

The waterfalls, page 67

One of the tourist attractions near Shuzenji is the Kawazu Seven Waterfalls—a pleasant walking trail that goes past, as the name suggests, seven waterfalls.

Negative ions, page 67

Negative ions—molecules with a negative electric charge—can be found in abundance out in nature, and are believed by some to have a positive effect on people's moods. These ions can also help hair to lock in moisture and be smoother and shinier.

Waterfall clothes, page 69

A form of ascetic training famous in Japan is *takigyô*, the practice of meditating under a waterfall.

10 and 12 disciples, page 75

Of all their disciples, Jesus and Buddha both had a core group that was closest to them. Jesus had 12 apostles, and Buddha had 10 principal disciples.

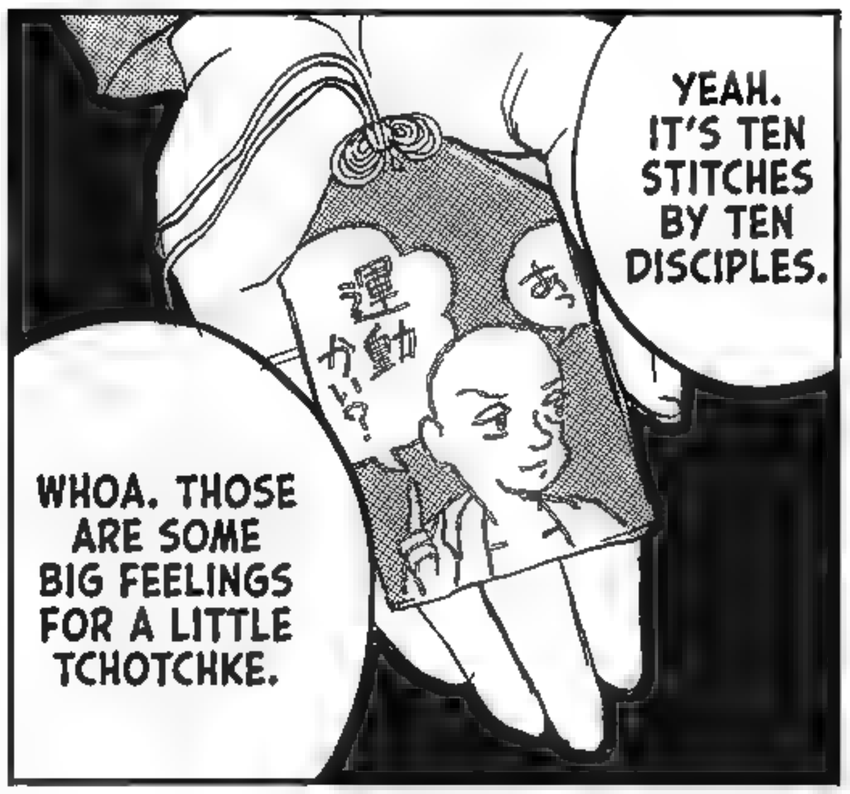
IT'S LIKE I'M GOING TO THE LAST BOSS'S CASTLE WITH NOTHING BUT A CYPRESS STICK!
NNGH, IT'S MY ONLY DEFENSE...
By the way, we're on the white team!
I GOT YOU A HEAD-BAND— YOU CAN USE IT FOR ARMOR!
ARE YOU OKAY, BUDDHA ?!

Cypress stick, page 77

In the Dragon Quest franchise of video games, the "cypress stick" is a simple wooden stick, and usually the weakest weapon in the game.

Omamori charm, page 77

This is a generic term for any kind of good luck charm meant to provide some kind of protection, but in this case, it refers specifically to the type of amulet seen in Buddha's hand. This type of *omamori* can be purchased at Shinto shrines and Buddhist temples all over Japan, and is made in all types of colors and fabrics. Inside the fabric is a prayer for safety or some other blessing, and the owner is to carry the amulet with them so it can protect them at all times. In this case, the charm was handmade by Buddha's disciples.



Ten Stitches by Ten Disciples, page 77

Buddha's disciples appear to have gotten the idea for this charm from a different sort of charm called a *Senninbari* or One-Thousand Stitch charm that was giving to soldiers on their way to war. This charm was a belt or sash that had one thousand knots or stitches, where ideally each stitch was made by a different embroiderer.

Rahula means obstacle, page 78 [78.1]

According to certain Buddhist tradition, Rahula was born the day Siddhartha Gautama had determined to leave his palace and kingdom in his quest for enlightenment. He received news of the birth as he was preparing to go, and said, "A rahu (obstacle) is born, a fetter has arisen." In other words, because the child might tempt him to stay and give up on his quest, his new son was an obstacle, holding him back from enlightenment.

I'M HONESTLY SURPRISED URIEL-SAN HASN'T REDUCED PETER-SAN TO A PILE OF CINDERS YET.
Like this? (lol)
AH HA HA HA HA HA
HE BURST OUT LAUGHING AND THREW A NET AT ME. THAT'S HOW IT STARTED.

Fishers of men, page 79

When Jesus called Peter and his brother Andrew to the ministry, he came upon them while they were busy at their trade of fishing. He told them, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men," indicating that they would bring people into the kingdom of heaven.

Buddha's sports career, page 81

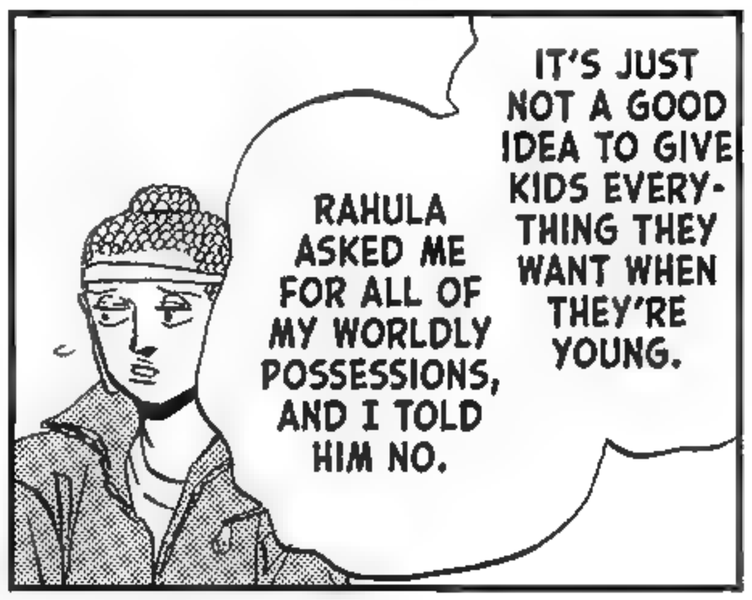
As the prince of a kingdom that was constantly at war, Siddhartha Gautama trained in all the martial arts, including archery, horseback riding, and wrestling. According to legend, he once participated in a martial arts tournament, during which his rival killed an elephant. Siddhartha then took the elephant and threw it outside the city.

A silver platter, page 82

As mentioned in volume two, the daughter of Herodias danced before King Herod, pleasing him enough that he promised to give her anything she wanted. Under her mother's instructions, she asked for the head of John the Baptist on a silver platter, and the Baptist was subsequently beheaded. Herodias was married to Herod (an unlawful state of affairs that was condemned by John the Baptist), which would make Salome Herod's stepdaughter.

Rahula's request for wealth, page 82

After attaining enlightenment, Buddha returned to visit his old home. This is when Rahula meets his father, and, on his mother's instructions, asks Buddha for his inheritance of riches and royal crown. Buddha knew these things would not bring true happiness to his son. He decided to instead give Rahula the inheritance of the knowledge he had gained on his path to enlightenment, and had the boy ordained.


RAHULA ASKED ME FOR ALL OF MY WORLDLY POSSESSIONS, AND I TOLD HIM NO.
IT'S JUST NOT A GOOD IDEA TO GIVE KIDS EVERY-THING THEY WANT WHEN THEY'RE YOUNG.

Spare the rod and spoil the child, page 82

The Japanese version of this idiom (which is what was used in the original text) more literally translates to, "if you love your child, send them on a journey," meaning that if a parent really cares about their child, they will let them experience the pain of the world instead of keeping them sheltered. The English version is no less appropriate in the context, but it should be taken to mean that appropriate discipline is better for a child than letting them think that their actions have no consequences.

Baptize her with the Christian name Aizawa, page 89

A Christian name, or baptismal name, is a name given to, or taken by, a person at their baptism or christening. In Christian cultures, the term is synonymous with "first name" or "given name," and so technically would not apply to a surname such as Aizawa, unless this teacher became Aizawa Yoshikawa.

Milo, page 94

Milo is a drink mix used to make malted chocolate milk. It's made by Nestle.

Masaharu Fukuyama, page 94

Masaharu Fukuyama is a famous Japanese singer who starred in several gum commercials.

Dipankara, page 95

Dipankara is a Buddha of the past, who was the Buddha eons before Gautama Buddha. There is a story in which Dipankara prophesied to Sumedha, a past incarnation of Siddhartha Gautama, that he would become a Buddha in a future life.

Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani, page 95

"My God, My God, why hast thou forsaken me?" This is what Jesus said on the cross very soon before He died.

Deep cleaning season, page 95

Instead of spring cleaning, it's traditional in Japan to do deep cleaning in December, to make sure everything is fresh and tidy for the new year.

Pharisees and the day of rest, page 96

The day of rest, also known as the Sabbath, is a weekly holy day used to rest from work and to recharge spiritually, which was originally observed on Saturday—the seventh day of the week—to commemorate the seventh day of the creation of the Earth, during which God Himself rested. After Christ's Ascension into Heaven, Christians began to observe the Sabbath on Sunday to commemorate the Resurrection. The Pharisees were a group of Jews who were known for their strict observance of the law, which included very rigid rules for the Sabbath, dictating even a limit to the number of steps that were allowed to be taken that day. They often accused Jesus of breaking the Sabbath when they learned He had healed someone on the day of rest.

The Gospel of Luke, the Gospel of Matthew, and Ararat, page 99

"The Gospel According to Luke" and "The Gospel According to Matthew" are two of the books in the New Testament of the Bible. Each of them is an account of the life and teachings of Jesus. These two books are supplemented by "The Gospel According to Mark" and "The Gospel According to John."

Ararat is the name of the mountain where Noah's ark landed when the waters from the Great Flood began to recede.

New Testament ZZ and *[TURN A] Bible*, page 100

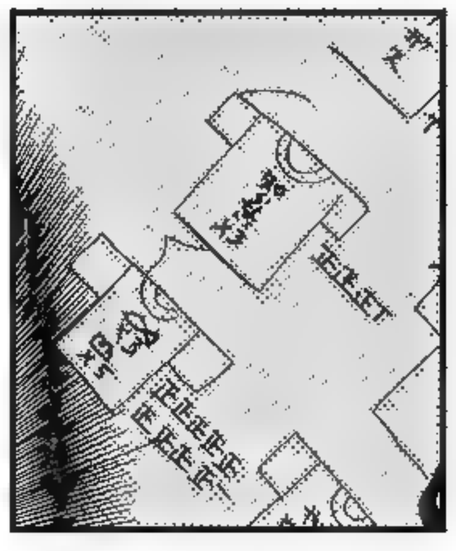
These title adjustments to the Bible were inspired by the *Gundam* franchise, a series of anime series about giant robots called Gundams. These series include *Gundam ZZ* and *Turn A Gundam*.

The Great Flood and the rainbow, page 102

Many people are familiar with the story of Noah and the Ark, when Noah builds an ark, fills it with animals, and he and his family are spared when the rains come for 40 days and 40 nights, flooding the whole earth, and thus destroying the wicked. Genesis does state that Noah was 600 years old at the time. The rainbow was given by God after the flood as a sign of mercy—a promise that He would never destroy the world by flooding again.

Tally marks, page 105

The marks next to the t-shirts are Japanese tally marks. The Chinese character for "right" or "correct" has exactly five strokes, so by writing one stroke of the character as you count, it's easy to look back at the marks and count them by fives.



Nausicaä, page 108

The heroine of *Nausicaä of the Valley of the Wind*, Nausicaä is the princess of the Valley of the Wind in a post-apocalyptic world, and she communicates with many creatures, including the mutant insects that infest the Earth.

Now die!
You're trapped.
Hmph, is this the end?
I can't believe you'd lock me up!
Text...
I drew a manga!!
It's better than yours!
Stupid!!!
By the way, you draw all those gray areas in your manga yourself, right? It's really hard!

Screen tone, page 109

Screen tone is what manga artists use to "color" their manga. Any area that isn't black or white is made gray or given a texture or pattern with screen tone. It works like a sticker, and comes in sheets, or screens. The manga artist (or their assistants) will cut out a piece of screen tone roughly the size of the area that needs to be covered, then he'll lay it over the drawing and use a small blade to cut away the pieces that don't fit inside the lines. These days, this process can be done digitally.

Blessed are the poor, page 111

This appears to be a reference to Jesus's famous Sermon on the Mount, specifically the part known as the Beatitudes, where Jesus lists several virtues and the blessings that will reward them. The quote as found in the King James version of the gospel of Matthew is, "Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven," where "poor in spirit" doesn't necessarily refer to literal poverty, but something more like humility. The gospel of Luke records a similar sermon of Jesus's that Luke records as having been given on a plain, which states, "Blessed be ye poor: for yours is the kingdom of God."

Book Off, page 111

Book Off is a Japanese chain of used book stores that is so popular it has hundreds of stores and a few overseas.

Indulgences, page 112

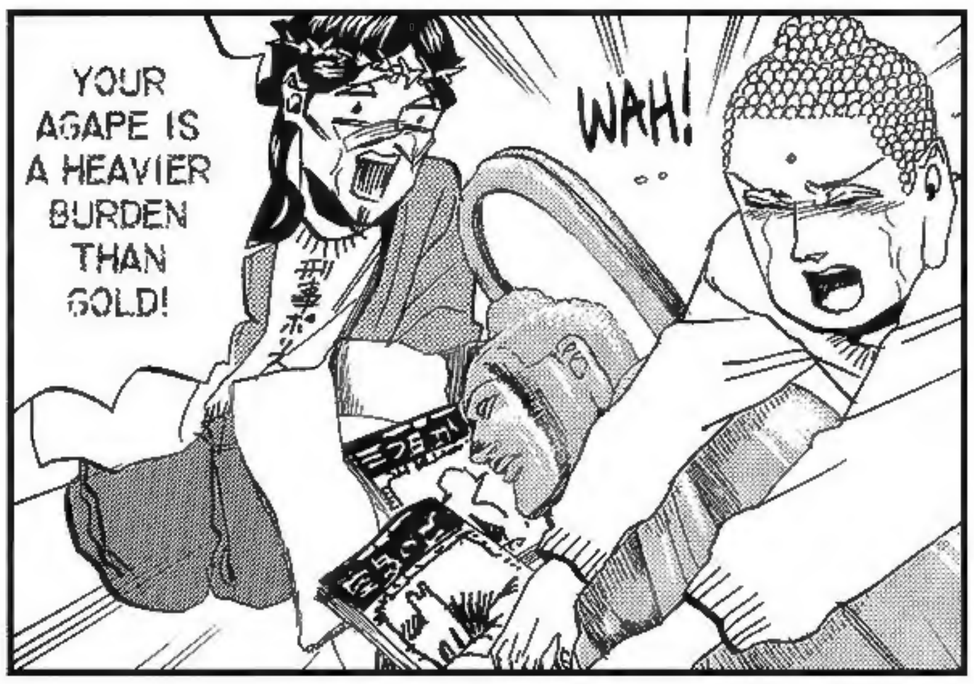
In the Roman Catholic church, an indulgence is a way to reduce the punishment brought about by sin. This can be done through all manner of good deeds, including donating money to a good cause. This particular method of earning an indulgence led to many abuses of the system, basically leading to a situation in which a person could presumably get away with anything as long as they had the money to buy forgiveness. Martin Luther was a priest from Germany who came to disagree with many practices of the Roman Catholic church, in particular the sale of indulgences. He is one of the most well-known figures in the Protestant Reformation in which many Christians left the Catholic church.

I DON'T THINK BOOK OFF WOULD BUY THOSE!
I don't think it's right!!!
NO, I CAN'T!
I REALLY SHOULDN'T SELL INDUL-GENCES!!
I'd be turning my back on everything Luther-san worked for!!
WHOOSH
INDULGENCE

Decapolis, page 113 Decapolis is a region of ten cities that was part of the Roman Empire, and much of Jesus Christ's ministry took place there. Here, the name of the area is given in a pun, using characters that spell *Deka Porisu* and could also mean "Detective Police."

Heavier burden than gold, page 114

In Japanese, the word "heavy" is used to describe something that weighs a lot, as well as a personality type that is often described as "clingy" or "smothering"—the kind of person with a martyr complex.



Good at analogies, page 116

For a large part of His ministry, Jesus taught using parables and analogies, explaining religious concepts using everyday imagery. These analogies vary in length—some were short stories, some were as short as a sentence.

Scouting in front of 109, page 117

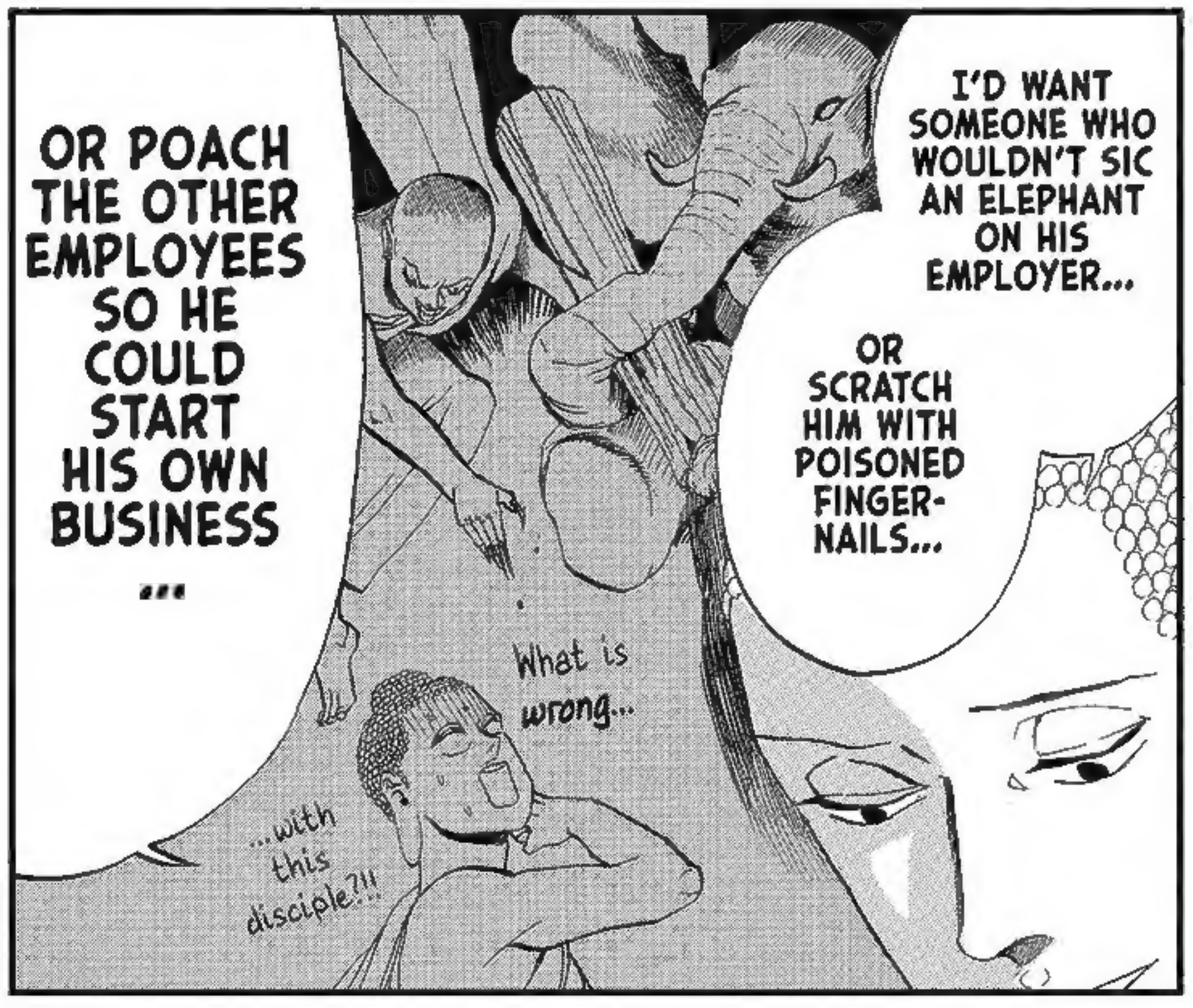
109 is a department store in Shibuya and a very popular shopping destination. As such, it's a good place for talent scouts to look for young new potential stars.

Original sin, page 118

Original sin is a concept in many Christian denominations that states that humans are prone to sin by nature because Adam and Eve partook of the forbidden fruit in the Garden of Eden, and that Christ came to the world to free humankind from sin, original and otherwise, through His suffering and death.

Devadatta, page 120

Devadatta was a disciple of Buddha's who was eager to succeed him and become leader of the community. In his jealousy of Buddha, he tried twice to have an elephant "accidentally" kill Buddha, and failing that, he tried to recruit his own followers. Eventually he was taken to Buddha to be punished for his various crimes, and he pretended to repent, but dipped his hand in poison and tried to scratch Buddha's foot. The Master pushed him away, at which point the ground opened up and Devadatta was swallowed in the flames that sprang out of the earth.

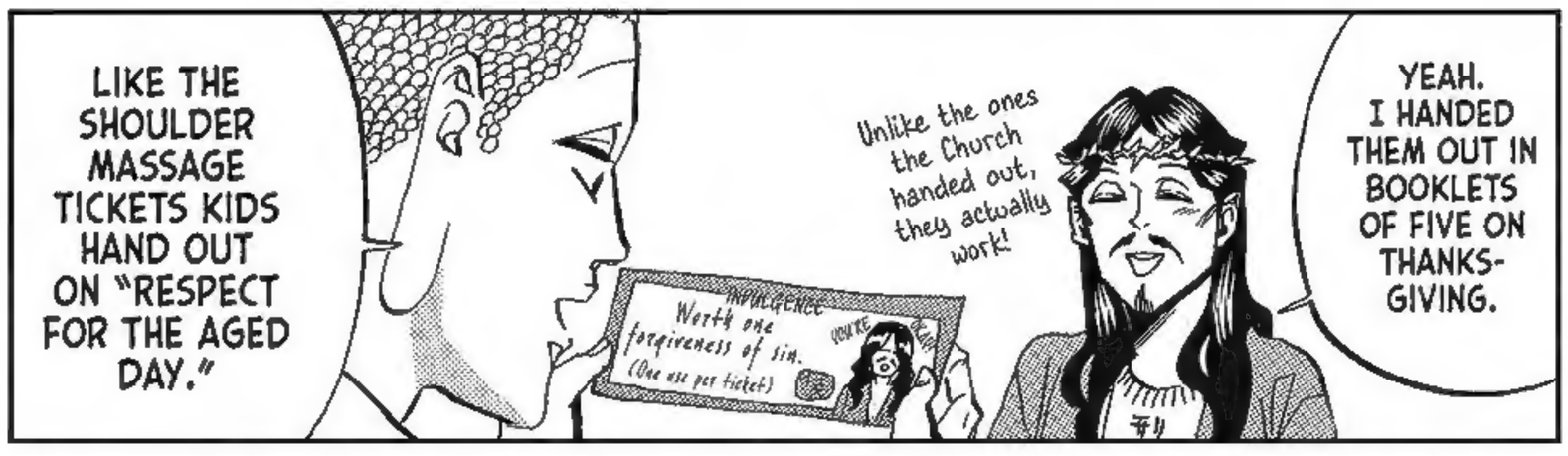

OR POACH THE OTHER EMPLOYEES SO HE COULD START HIS OWN BUSINESS ...
I'D WANT SOMEONE WHO WOULDN'T SIC AN ELEPHANT ON HIS EMPLOYER...
OR SCRATCH HIM WITH POISONED FINGER-NAILS...
What is wrong...
...with this disciple?!!

YOU DISTRIBUTE THEM ON THE LANDING TO JACOB'S LADDER, TOO, RIGHT?
Of course, it's an escalator now.
YES, THANK YOU FOR ASKING. IT'S VERY WELL RECEIVED AMONG COMMUTING ANGELS.

Jacob's Ladder, page 123

In the Old Testament, Jacob, the father of the Twelve Tribes of Israel (including the Jews), had a dream in which he saw a ladder extending from the Earth all the way to Heaven, with angels going up and down it.

Thanksgiving and Respect for the Aged Day, page 126


LIKE THE SHOULDER MASSAGE TICKETS KIDS HAND OUT ON "RESPECT FOR THE AGED DAY."
INDULGENCE
Worth one forgiveness of sin.
(One use per ticket)
Unlike the ones the Church handed out, they actually work!
YEAH. I HANDED THEM OUT IN BOOKLETS OF FIVE ON THANKS-GIVING.

Here, Jesus is probably talking about the Japanese holiday, more specifically known as Labor Thanksgiving Day. It happens around the same time as Thanksgiving in the United States, but is more specifically geared toward thanking laborers for the work they do. Sometimes people will literally give thanks to the workers in their lives by giving them cards or gifts.

Respect for the Aged Day is very much like it sounds—a day for appreciating the senior citizens in one's life. It is celebrated by going home to spend time with one's elders, or by providing services and entertainment to elderly folk in the community.

Saint Young Men 3

KODANSHA COMICS Digital Edition

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